

Glover shares latest smoking cessation facts

By Sara Sutton
Staff Writer

Dr. Elbert Glover, professor and chair of the department of Public and Community Health, and Director and Founder of the Center for Health Behavior Research at the University of Maryland College Park, came to Salisbury University to give a lecture titled "The Latest Treatment Options and Research for Helping Smokers Quit."

Glover has been studying the science of smoking and smoking dependence for 32 years now and proved himself knowledgeable last Tuesday night in the Great Hall of Holloway.

Glover started his lecture by explaining the physiology of smoking and what a smoker is up against when trying to quit. Explaining, "The brain develops nicotine receptor sites, and when you quit smoking these sites don't go away, they just lay dormant," making it that much easier to relapse after having just one cigarette no matter how long you have quit smoking."

Another aspect he touched on was the environmental and behavioral aspects of smoking. Examples are lighting up every time you get in the car, or the cigarette you always have after class. Things like this become second



Public Relations photo
Dr. Elbert Glover lectures at SU

nature and when you can recognize these habits and break them you're one step closer to quitting.

A student attending the lecture gave an example of his grandfather who started using a pack of toothpicks in his shirt pocket instead of cigarettes because he was so used to grabbing them and lighting up, not even aware of how much he was smoking.

Glover also stated that for his patients who are first time quitters he always tries to get them to go cold turkey at first.

"They haven't experienced what withdrawal feels like and some take it better than others," Glover said.

If that doesn't work there are a slew of other options to help one quit.

Nicotine replacement therapy is one of the more common methods used. This includes the patch and gum but is only used for the relief of withdrawal symptoms. Another method Glover was advocating was the use of new drug called Chantix™. Also known as Varenicline, the treatment is to help regulate your dopamine levels that have been thrown off from smoking. This in turn should help offset many of the symptoms of withdrawal.

Salisbury gets the flu Vaccine is only 40 percent effective

By Sarah Janoske
Staff Writer

Salisbury has been hit hard with the flu in the past couple weeks, making it difficult for students to concentrate on school work and getting better. At this point in the semester, students are stressed out with papers and tests for their classes, causing their immune systems to wear down.

The flu vaccines that were used this year have been proven to be less effective in building immunity against the strains of the flu found in the United States. Last year, the vaccine efficacy rate was one of the highest, around 90 percent; but this year, rates dropped down to 40 or 50 percent.

"Manufacturers and researchers look worldwide to try and survey what strains will hit the United States in a given year. There are two strains of the flu that were not included in this vaccine that were actually in the United States, so that's why some people are getting the flu," said Jennifer Berkman, the

director of Salisbury's Student Health Services.

According to Berkman, the absentee rate in classrooms has reached about 33



Adrienne Price photo
Overwhelmed with appointments, SU's Student Health Services has been sending 10-20 students to the Immediate Care Center each day.

percent, about a third of the student population sick with the flu or less severe illnesses such as head colds and bad sore throats.

Usually, the flu symptoms include headaches, fever, chills, overall body aches, severe fatigue, a bad cough or sore throat. The flu symptoms typically come fast and are more severe than the common cold. The flu can be brought on and triggered by high stress levels, not eating or sleeping right, or being in close quarters with other students in classes or dorm rooms.

"We're on our second wave of flu cases. The first was when students came back from break with a one to two week incubation period, so now we're on to round two. The students who came back healthy this semester have been exposed by friends and classmates," Berkman said.

Sophomore Sara Mattingly said, "There's no escaping it, it's like a monster. Students who live in the dorms are in such close quarters," SEE FLU PG. 2

Alvin Ailey II astounds at a sold out performance



Internet photo

By Lindsay Sappington
Staff Writer

The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's junior company, Ailey II, returned to Salisbury University for two electrifying performances in Holloway Hall last Thursday and Friday nights.

The sold-out campus event packed Holloway Hall's auditorium with people of all ages. Before the dance performance on Thursday night, Dr. Charmaine Patricia Warren gave a lecture in an effort to give a deeper understanding of the fine art and culture of dance.

"They are considered the greatest modern dance company in the world," said director of Cultural Affairs June Krell-Salgado.

Along with the lecture on Thursday night, the performance consisted of three separate pieces with intermissions between each. Friday's program didn't have a lecture and the dancers performed six pieces, all different from the previous night.

"It's very energetic and full of life," said Princess Anne county resident Richard Smith.

Each act was choreographed by separate directors and contained different dancers which gave each dance a unique style.

"I was trying to understand it to see if there was a story behind it," freshman Sarah Schwartz said. "I really liked it." The high energy performances had the audience members clapping and cheering throughout the night.

"I thought it was really interesting just them being in sync with each other. I just thought it was amazing," said SU student recruitment officer Leroy Satchell. "Even though they were all dancing and doing their own thing, they were still interacting with each other. It was neat and very intense for me. It made me want to get up there and shake a leg!"

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater was founded by Alvin Ailey himself. The nationally acclaimed company travels all over to share their athletic and artistic abilities with the world. Their shows are described as works of art, rather than performances.

"I cannot believe I am in Salisbury, Maryland, right now, taking in all this great art. It's amazing," said SU alumna Francis Hooks.

"Dancers are the athletes of the gods," said Krell-Salgado, quoting Albert Einstein.

Ailey II doesn't come every year to Salisbury but look for their next appearance. If you would like to find additional information on the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Ailey II check them out online at <http://www.alvinaiiley.org/>.

Kratovil vs. Harris for Congress

By Doug Allers
Staff Writer

Victory has been declared on both Frank Kratovil's and Andy Harris' Web sites. Each nominee in Maryland's First Congressional District eagerly posted bold exclamatory statements saying they had won the primary election.

The election, which was held on Tuesday, Feb. 12, was a triumph for both men. Harris defeated nine-term Republican Rep. Wayne Gilchrest. Kratovil, the Democratic nominee "cruised to an early lead, capturing more than 40% of the vote in a four-way race" according to his Web site.

PolitickerMD.com reports that Kratovil "plans to use his moderate viewpoints to reach out to supporters of incumbent Gilchrest, a fellow moderate." Harris, who has openly stated that Gilchrest is too liberal, is very conservative toward issues concerning the election in 2008.

The Web sites of both Congressional nominees implore the readers to learn more about them, understand their take on issues and explore their political and

educational background.

Frank Kratovil currently lives in Stevensville, Maryland, with his wife and four sons. He is serving his second term as State's Attorney for Queen Anne's County and is the immediate past President of the Maryland State Attorneys' Association.

Andy Harris lives in Cockeysville with his wife and five children. He is a doctor at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore and currently serves in the Senate of Maryland General Assembly. He also served in the Navy Medical Corps and the U.S. Naval Reserve as a Lt. Commander during Operation Desert Storm.

Kratovil received his degree from Western Maryland College in 1990 and continued his education at the University of Baltimore School of Law. Harris received his degree from Johns Hopkins University in 1977, continuing his education at Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health.

Each nominee has a widely different perspective on important issues that are surrounding this election.

Concerning the war in Iraq, Kratovil

takes a firm stand on his Web site, stating "the war in Iraq was a mistake and had I been in Congress I would not have voted for it." Speaking about the Iraq Study Group Report, Kratovil says that he agrees with its recommendations, supporting "setting appropriate benchmarks for progress" but does not "believe that setting a specific timetable for withdrawal facilitates [the] goal of creating stability in Iraq."

"We must embrace the Iraq Study Group's recommendations to engage in an all-out diplomatic offensive within Iraq, the Middle East and the world to adopt a plan to stabilize Iraq and confront destabilizing forces," Kratovil said.

Harris, on the other hand, supports the war in Iraq and says "as a member of the military" he "understands the necessity of a strong national defense." He vows to "fully fund our men and women in uniform fighting the War on Terror, improve the healthcare provided to members of the military and our veterans, and continue to fight terrorists where they are, so they do not attack again."



Internet photo
Democratic nominee Frank Kratovil

Concerning immigration, Kratovil says he is not against it and "supports lawful immigration and the ability of people to come to this country and achieve the American Dream by working hard and finding a better life for themselves and their families," but doing so legally. He adds that it is important to abide by the laws and that "blatantly ignoring violations of our

SEE CONGRESS PG. 2

Convicted murderer released early

By Michelle Hinkle
Staff Writer

13 years after killing a young girl celebrating senior week, Jermaine S. Wright of Salisbury has been released from prison more than three and a half years early as a result of good behavior and education credits.

On June 14, 1995, 16-year-old Krista Ruggles and her friend Tera Charles went to an under-21 nightclub in Ocean City. It was here that these two first encountered Wright. The girls left the club in the early morning hours and headed north on the boardwalk towards their ocean front hotel. As the girls walked back to the Dunes Manor on 28th Street, Wright approached and offered to drive them home. The young senior weekers accepted the ride. Once at the hotel, Wright asked



Internet photo

Convicted murderer Jermaine S. Wright of Salisbury was released from prison more than three and a half years early as a result of good behavior.

Ruggles to stay behind and talk with him for 10 minutes before calling it a night. Disregarding her friend's warnings, Ruggles

agreed. At 3:45 a.m. Charles saw Ruggles for the last time as she rode away in Wright's car.

The following day, with no sign

of Ruggles, her roommates filed a missing persons report with the Ocean City Police. Ruggles' father Larry said the police did not take the report seriously since recent graduates often want to "get lost to party" during Senior Week.

While biking near Whaleyville on June 19, a woman noticed something pink off to the side of the road. Upon closer inspection the woman realized that she had discovered the body of a teenage girl, later identified as Krista Ruggles. Wright was named the prime suspect after an autopsy revealed that Ruggles' death coincided with their encounter five days prior.

A grand jury indicted Wright on first degree murder charges in Aug. of 1995. The Worcester County State's Attorney's Office SEE MURDERER PG. 2

TUESDAY 2/26/08	WEDNESDAY 2/27/08	THURSDAY 2/28/08	FRIDAY 3/1/08	SATURDAY 3/2/08	SUNDAY 3/3/08	MONDAY 3/4/08
HIGH 54	HIGH 42	HIGH 38	HIGH 46	HIGH 47	HIGH 43	HIGH 52
WIND/ SHOWERS	PARTLY CLOUDY	MOSTLY SUNNY	MOSTLY SUNNY	SHOWERS	MOSTLY SUNNY	MOSTLY SUNNY
LOW 37	LOW 25	LOW 27	LOW 40	LOW 33	LOW 34	LOW 41

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News briefs

New Crime Watch Program encourages participation

National Foreign Language Month

The first week in March is National Foreign Language Week - an opportunity to take the time to value and appreciate what studying another language and culture can offer to each of us, personally and professionally. As music easily connects language and culture in a manner that everyone can understand, The Department of Music is supporting this project from the Department of Modern Languages and Intercultural Studies by offering "A Celebration of International Music" on Sunday, March 2 at 5 p.m. in the Great Hall of Holloway Hall. Refreshments will be served.

SU Theatre Presents Williams' 'Summer and Smoke' Feb. 28-March 9

Salisbury University's Bobbi Biron Theatre Program presents its first Williams play in more than a decade, *Summer and Smoke*, Feb. 28-29 and March 1-2 and 4-9 in the Black Box Theatre of Fulton Hall. Curtain is at 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Sundays.

Written in 1948 and later revised by Williams as *The Nightingale*, this romantic drama tells the story of an unmarried minister's daughter courted by her childhood love; a wild, undisciplined doctor.

Directed by Andrew Heller, communication and theatre arts faculty, this traditional Williams story follows the life of a damaged older woman, Miss Alma, who is in constant fear of following her mother into madness. The young Dr. John Buchanan Jr., whose portrayal on the silver screen in the 1962 film version made Laurence Harvey a star, is who she longs for. However, he longs for others, leaving her on the side.

Congress

laws erodes respect for all laws."

Harris says his goal is to "make sure the United States does not become a sanctuary nation for illegal immigrants." He plans to enforce this by doubling the number of Border Patrol Agents and stopping the "flood of illegal immigrants" across the southern border, doubling the number of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Agents, and saying "no to all forms of amnesty." Concerning amnesty, Harris says, "I believe amnesty undermines the rule of law in our nation."

Healthcare has become a very strong issue in this election. Kratochiv believes in universal health coverage, saying, "It cannot be achieved until we accept the premise that every adult and child must be insured." He will support and advocate for true universal coverage and quality mental health care.

Harris says that he wishes to "improve our healthcare system and make it affordable to Marylanders - without expanding government run

By Jonathan Moynihan
Staff Writer

The Salisbury University Police have always provided a campus-wide safety program. But in light of the recent events of Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois University, SU's police have implemented a new and resourceful program called the Crime Watch Program.

"We're trying to get it off the ground. It's a program that's supposed to come to the police, not from the police," said Corporal Ed Jones.

The Crime Watch is a community program, and so we need the participation of the community, Jones said. We all have a tremendous opportunity to act as the eyes and ears for the safety of the University. He said it allows the public to find things that should be examined, fixed or modified so that all parties are satisfied with the protection of

Murderer

dropped the charges five months later due to lack of evidence.

Wright relocated to North Carolina where he was apprehended again for the sexual assault of a minor. While in prison, Wright allegedly confessed to his cell mate that he killed Ruggles. With this new evidence, Worcester County attorneys faced Wright in court for a second time. Four years after Ruggles' death, Wright was convicted of murder, sodomy, robbery, as well as assault and battery and sentenced to life in prison.

healthcare."

According to a Feb. 18 article in *The Daily Times*, Kratochiv may have a better chance at a win now that Gilchrist has been voted out. It reports that "Kratochiv calls himself a law-and-order, conservative Democrat who can take the district out of Republicans' hands."

The article adds that "that possibility depends in part on Kratochiv's ability to raise enough cash to take on Harris, who spent about \$1.2 million in his race against Gilchrist and says he'll raise about a million more for the general election race."

PolitickerMD.com states, "according to data from the Federal Election Commission, and based on information filed Jan. 23, Kratochiv raised \$241,535 for his campaign, while spending \$159,264. He reported \$82,271 cash on hand. This was far less than Harris, who raised \$1,095,618 and spent \$734,607. His campaign reported \$361,009 cash on hand."

For up-to-date information on each party and their stand on issues, check out anyharris08.org and frankkratochiv.com.

our faculty, staff and students.

Much of this program has existed since the founding of the institution. For years the SU Police have sent out weekly bulletins, both on and offline, as well as offered student workshops and training classes. However, this new program hopes to more directly affect the students and empower them to make a difference in their safety.

"We want to help establish better relations with students and police," Jones said. "Our desire is to have every student on campus know how to prevent and react to emergency situations."

The SU Police Web site has a large variety of tools that can be easily accessed by anyone with a computer, covering all aspects of law enforcement issues, said Jones.

Many new posters and fliers have been posted throughout the campus to provide students with information on how to react in

prison activities took an additional 1,283 days off of his sentence. His probation will extend through 2012. Upon his release, Wright will be required to take part in a sexual offender treatment program.

Ruggles' family has followed Wright's court cases and was aware of his early release. "I believe in the legal system. The system isn't perfect but it's the only thing we've got," Larry Ruggles said.

Inmates can have time removed from their sentences for good behavior, work credits and educational credits.

Wright's good conduct, educational credits and participation in



Sarah Wright photo

The Campus Watch program is designed to invoke community participation in the protection and safety of faculty, staff and students.

case of an active shooter situation, such as those of Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois. Those kinds of things can happen here, said Jones.

"Our number one job is the safety of our faculty, staff and students. That's our primary duty, despite what people think."

law," said Mark Vernarelli, spokesman for the State Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services. "We have to go by what the law says."

"He better be walking a fine line. I mean that. We will accept no excuses," Wicomico County Sheriff Mike Lewis said. Wright is not the only Salisbury resident to keep an eye on. As of Feb. 22, 68 sex offenders lived in the same zip code as Salisbury University.

Larry Ruggles said he suspects Wright will commit crimes in the future. "I'm hopeful that it doesn't happen, but I have a gut feeling."

"That's not our policy, that's the

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Wright's good conduct, educational credits and participation in

Product inventory disputes between Wicomico County, liquor dispensaries and beer stores ensue



Sarah Wright photo

Cheers, located on the corner of Route 13 and Dogwood Road, is not allowed to sell liquor due to Maryland liquor laws. Mike Vizard, the owner of Cheers, says, "Selling liquor would add tremendous value to my business."

By Matthew J. Harhai
Staff writer

While at a meeting, Wicomico County Councilwoman Stevie Prettyman recently confronted the Wicomico Liquor Dispensaries for selling other forms of alcohol, novelties and snacks, a violation of liquor laws and free enterprise.

The private business owner's right to not see competition from the government has been interrupted because dispensaries are

and the emergency room every day because Health Services is overwhelmed with the amount of appointments being made.

"We just can't keep up with the pace," Berkman said.

To try to educate the community here at Salisbury, Health Services has sent out two campus wide e-mails to both students and faculty on ways to prevent the flu as well as how to treat the symptoms.

There are simple steps that can be taken to decrease your chance of catching the flu from your peers,

until it was agreed upon that the sale of those items created direct competition with beer stores and convenience stores such as Cheers and Thirsty's.

"We started getting complaints," said Justin Collins, manager of the South Salisbury dispensary.

The complaints were from people just wondering why they could not buy their beer while they purchased liquor, says Collins. The big 30 or 12 packs were put in just before the holidays.

The liquor dispensaries were also found to be selling items such as playing cards, chips, soda and water.

According to Maryland liquor laws, Wicomico County Liquor dispensaries, under Article 2B, are in violation.

According to Maryland law, "Alcoholic beverages industry may displace or limit economic competition by regulating and engaging in the sale or distribution of alcoholic beverages or both on an exclusive basis as provided in this article and may

"I'm not going to be a hypocrite; yes, selling liquor would add tremendous value to my business," Vizard said.

Ahmad created the petition in late 2007 and it received its first signatures on Dec. 3, 2007. The stated goal of the petition was to collect

adopt and enforce regulations authorized by this article notwithstanding any anticompetitive effect."

The dispensary system is by definition already a monopoly because it is the only business entity in the county that is allowed to sell at wholesale prices.

Adding beer to the dispensary, says Collins, was a way of taking advantage of the cooler that were already in place.

Other private businesses wishing to sell liquor must acquire a liquor license and then must only carry a certain ratio of liquor to food for sale. Private business owners must also pay a 15 percent markup from the whole sale price.

If you are a private business selling liquor in Wicomico County, "You are perceived as gouging your customers because your prices are so out of whack," Vizard said.

The government may only tax liquor, not make a profit; this is a further violation the county could be guilty of.

Wicomico, Worcester, Somerset and Montgomery are the four counties in Maryland that sell liquor through the median of county liquor stores.

"Wicomico County spent \$47,000 in advertising last year. Why? They don't have to; they're the only game in town," Vizard said.

The county is already under fire for nearly displacing \$10.2 million. The accounting department failed to initially record the sum on the general ledger. The money was found under two accounts which, had they been overlooked, could have presented an opportunity for fraud.

The city's audit from 2004-2007 has seen other mistakes. The accounting department needs more support.

"The city had an ending inventory in 2005 of \$474,000 and an opening the next day of \$332,000. That is a \$140,000 difference which affects the bottom line tremendously," Vizard said.

"I'm not going to be a hypocrite; yes, selling liquor would add tremendous value to my business," Vizard said.

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10,000 signatures to convince Wikipedia to remove the pictures. The petition gained immense popularity and the 10,000th signature was received by an anonymous person from the Syrian Arab Republic only 17 days later, stating simply, "Masha Allah," the closest English translation being "God has willed it."

God may have other plans, however, because 300,000 signatures, and nearly 3 months later, the pictures remain on Wikipedia.

Wikipedia is an encyclopedia dependant, for the most part, on the knowledge and expertise of its users. Users can edit and create pages on Wikipedia with relative freedom. Some pages on Wikipedia that include controversial or otherwise sensitive material are locked

Crime beat

2/17/08
2:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.
Malicious Destruction of Property

A University Police Officer while on patrol observed a handicapped sign post had been broken in half.

2/17/08
2:30 p.m.-2:35 p.m.
Found property

A University Police officer found a camcorder on the second floor of Holloway Hall.

2/18/08
10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Theft

A student reported the front license plate was stolen from a vehicle while parked in Dogwood parking lot.

2/19/08
8:00 p.m.-10:10 p.m.
Theft

A student reported an unattended cell phone was stolen from Maggs gym.

2/21/08
8:55 p.m.-9:20 p.m.
Suspicious Vehicle

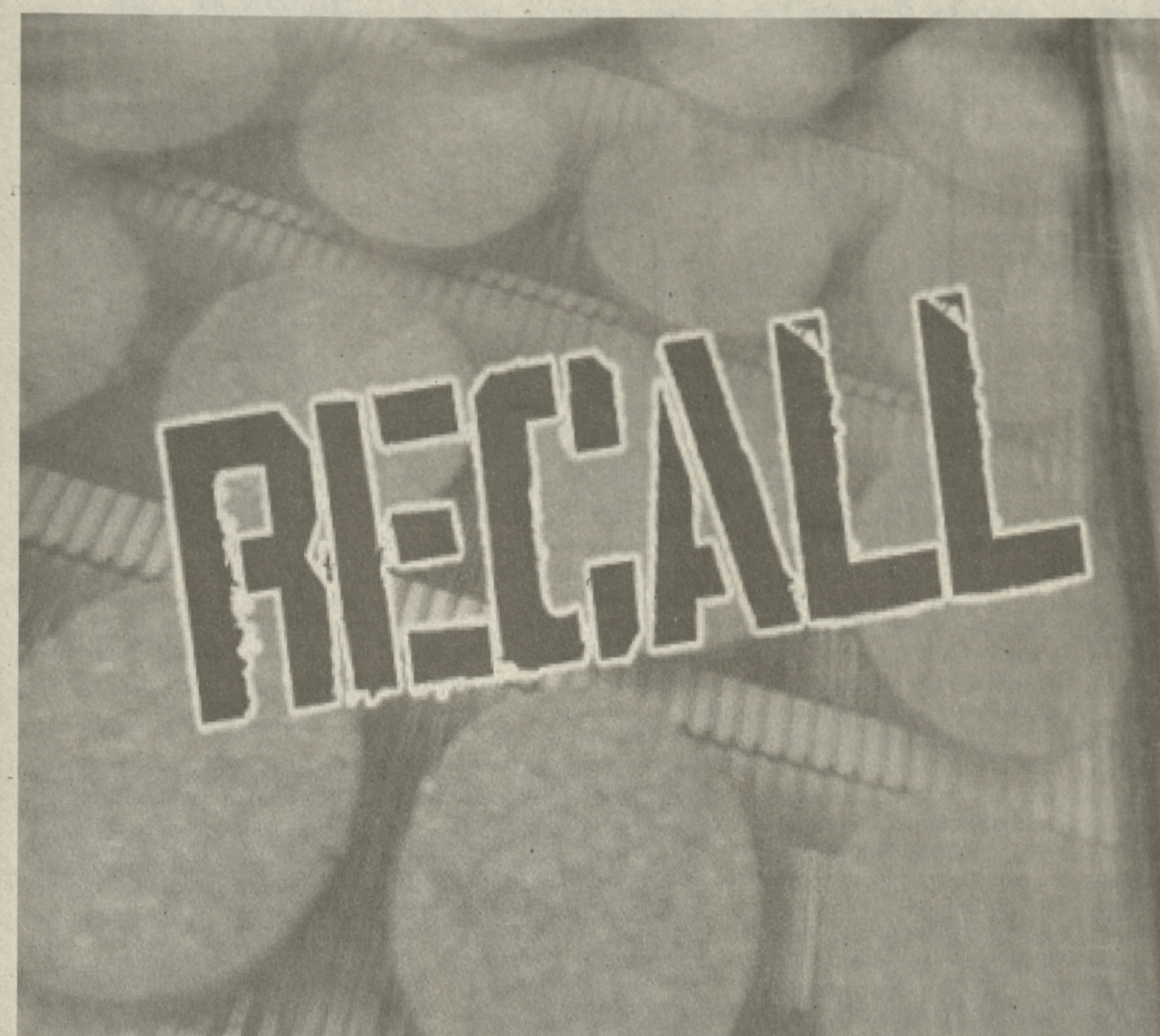
A student reported a suspicious vehicle followed her and a friend as they walked from Dresser Lot B to Dresser Lot A. The students were able to board the University shuttle bus to get back to campus. University Police searched the area for the vehicle, but were unable to locate the vehicle.

The Flyer: Vol. 35 Issue 15

GLOBAL

February 26, 2008

Biggest beef recall in U.S. history



By Kristen Manion
Staff Writer

Last weekend, on Feb. 17, the USDA and FDA ordered the recall of 143 million pounds of beef off of the US markets, the largest recall of its kind in United States history. The California meat producer Westland/Hallmark Meat Packing in China has been brought up on allegations of animal abuse and using aging cattle in their production.

The recall was announced after the release of an undercover video from a worker at the company, who was also a member of the US Humane Society, showing employees of the meat packing plant abusing the cattle being led into the slaughter. Such abuses included kicking, poking with electric cattle prods and the moving of crippled animals using forklifts.

The USDA later called these "egregious violations" of federal

animal care regulations. Also being criticized is the use of "downer cows," or cattle that are sent through processing that can neither stand nor walk due to apparent illness, injury or age. The official government position on the issue prohibits the slaughter of animals that can neither walk nor stand on their own because of disease.

The last major recall of beef products was in 1999, when the USDA recalled 35 million pounds

Internet photo

of beef.

Nowadays, the average age of butchered cattle is between 5-7 years to prevent the possibility of dangerous diseases, such as Mad Cow disease, making its way into US markets. The determined ages of the cows means that these cattle would have been born long after the 1997 ban on ruminant feed, where butchered animal parts were mixed in with cattle feed. The ban was put into existence to prevent the incidence of Mad Cow in US markets. A quote featured on CNN.com from the Westland/Hallmark president Steve Mendell stated, "We have taken swift action regarding the two employees identified on the video and have already implemented aggressive measures to ensure all employees follow our humane handling policies and procedures."

Two former employees were charged with "five felony counts of animal cruelty and three misdemeanors were filed against a pen manager," according to CBS.com. These three misdemeanor charges included the "illegal movement of a non-ambulatory animal." Both employees were fired. No charges have been formally filed against Westland.

The animal abuse allegations are especially troubling with the knowledge that these "downer" cows are more likely to be carriers of the dangerous bacterium *E. coli* O157:H7, as well as salmonella and bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), more commonly known as Mad Cow disease. What makes these animals most susceptible is that they, according to CNN, "typically wallow in feces and their immune systems are often weak."

The good news is that if beef is cooked above 160 degrees internal temperature, the bacterium is killed. The USDA strongly urges the public to exercise caution when ordering undercooked beef until further notice.

Those most susceptible to *E. coli* poisoning and these other diseases are young children, the elderly and other members of the population who would otherwise have compromised immune systems. *E. coli* is potentially deadly; a USDA official stated that there is a "remote possibility" that the tainted beef could be harmful if consumed.

The 143 million pounds of beef that are being recalled are "[the California] meat packer's entire production for the past two years because the company did not prevent ailing animals from entering the U.S. food supply," according to the *Washington Post*.

For the time being, the USDA is urging American citizens to exercise caution when ordering a steak or burger. There are no records indicating the tainted beef has made it to local fast food restaurants on the East Coast, but USDA officials emphasized their belief that the meat poses little or no hazard to consumers. Still, health officials stress the need to be cautious about undercooked meats until further notice.

HISTORY CORNER

FEBRUARY 26

1993. World Trade Center bombing: In New York City, a truck bomb parked below the North Tower goes off, killing 6 and injuring over a thousand.

FEBRUARY 27

1951. The Twenty-second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, limiting Presidents to two terms, is ratified.

FEBRUARY 28

1940. Basketball is televised for the first time.

FEBRUARY 29

1916. In South Carolina, the minimum working age for factory, mill and mine workers is raised from 12 to 14 years old.

MARCH 1

1961. President John F. Kennedy establishes the Peace Corps.

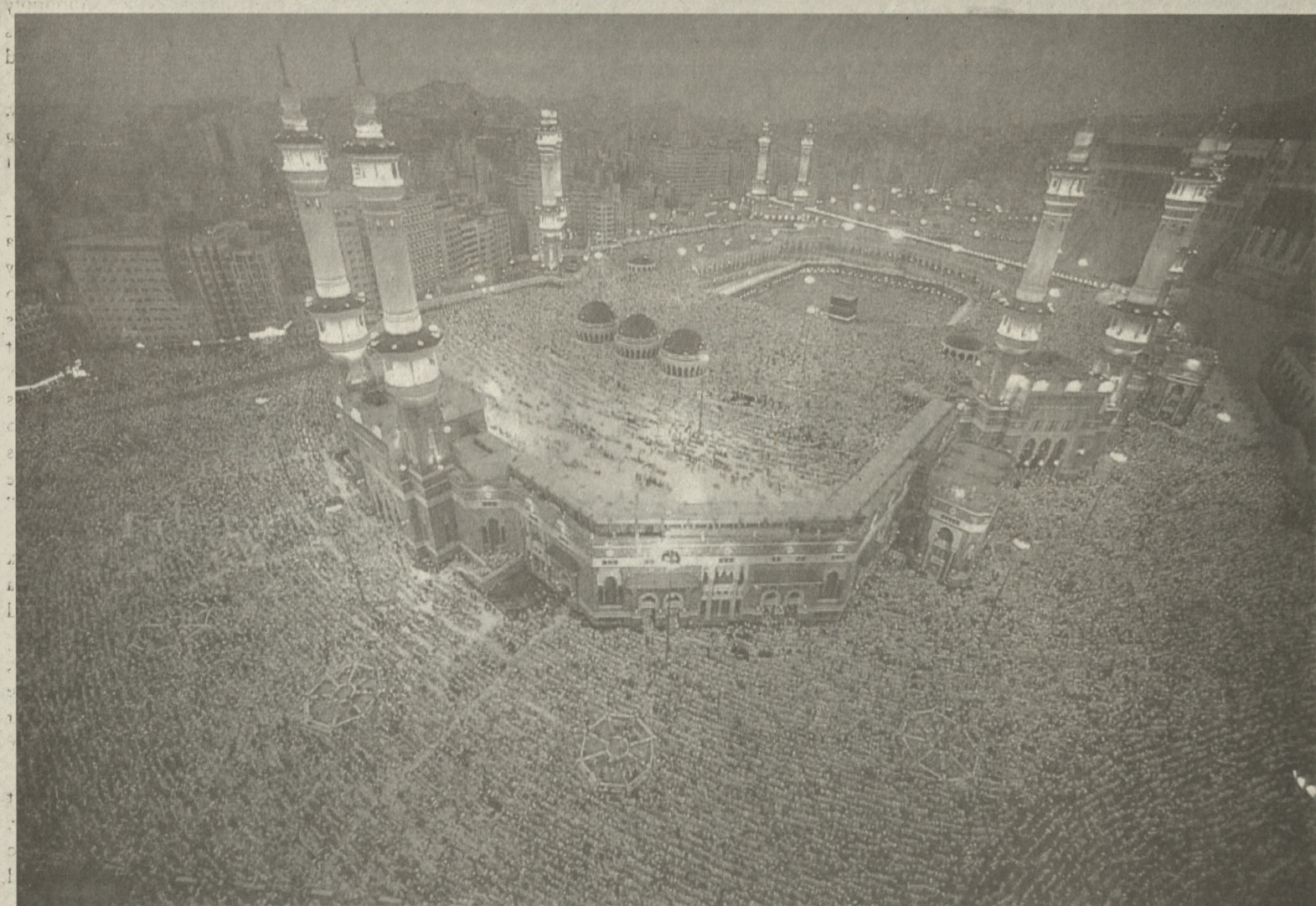
MARCH 2

1949. The first automatic street light was installed in New Milford, Conn.

MARCH 3

1991. An amateur video captures the beating of Rodney King by Los Angeles police officers.

Wikipedia committed blasphemy?



Internet photo

By Steven Reddick
Staff Writer

Over 300,000 people have signed a petition to force online encyclopedia site wikipedia.org to remove the images of the prophet Muhammad from the site. According to Faraz Ahmad, the creator of the petition, "In Islam, picture[s] of Prophet Muhammad and other humans are not allowed. But Wikipedia editors are showing illustrations [of the prophet and other humans] with [their faces exposed]." Even though the faces are veiled or whitewashed in some of the pictures, "still, they are offensive to Muslims."

Ahmad created the petition in late 2007 and it received its first signatures on Dec. 3, 2007. The stated goal of the petition was to collect

10,000 signatures to convince Wikipedia to remove the pictures. The petition gained immense popularity and the 10,000th signature was received by an anonymous person from the Syrian Arab Republic only 17 days later, stating simply, "Masha Allah," the closest English translation being "God has willed it."

God may have other plans, however, because 300,000 signatures, and nearly 3 months later, the pictures remain on Wikipedia.

Wikipedia is an encyclopedia dependant, for the most part, on the knowledge and expertise of its users. Users can edit and create pages on Wikipedia with relative freedom. Some pages on Wikipedia that include controversial or otherwise sensitive material are locked

for editing by the Wikipedia staff. Due to the recent controversy surrounding the page on Muhammad, Wikipedia administrators placed an "indefinite semi-protection" lock-down, preventing most users from editing the page. Certain pages receive a protection lock, according to Wikipedia's protection policy, "when subject to heavy and persistent vandalism, such as the George W. Bush article."

The situation involving the displeasure of the Muslim community and Wikipedia's treatment toward its content raises a question of ethics. On one hand, Wikipedia provides open access to an immense vault of valuable information about thousands of subjects (including religion), which could lead to a potential narrowing of the chasm which separates those who

understand a subject and those who do not.

A simple survey revealed that a Google search for "Prophet Muhammad" turned up Wikipedia's page as the first result. Any parties interested in learning more about Islam would find that such a task is made simple because of Wikipedia.

On the other hand, including images of the prophet Muhammad, on Wikipedia's page violates what some Muslims believe to be a sacred rule of Islam. "Imagery may lead to idol worship," said one petition signer, Vaseem M. of India. "This is the logical reason for prohibition of imagery. Please respect religious sentiments," added

PUZZLES

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLES
LOOK FOR MORE NEXT WEEK

b b b b
a a a a
r r r r
g g g g

UP FOR GRABS

HOROBOD

ROBIN HOOD

1 1 1

BACK TO SQUARE ONE

sta4nce

FOR INSTANCE

FLU

it's almost like a guarantee you'll get sick."

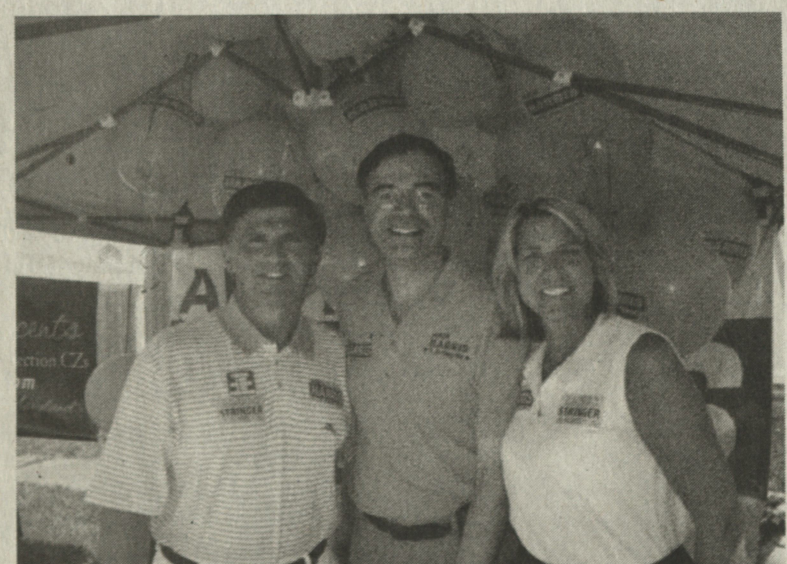
According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), if you received the flu vaccine this year and still get the flu, you will be sick for a shorter period of time and your symptoms will be less severe since the efficacy rate is not as high.

SU isn't the only school in Maryland that has been affected by an outbreak of the flu. According to

WJZ, a Baltimore news station, the University of Maryland in College Park has had more than 400 cases diagnosed in the few short weeks the semester has been in session. College Park's University Health Center has stopped taking routine appointments for less severe illnesses to focus solely on students with flu symptoms.

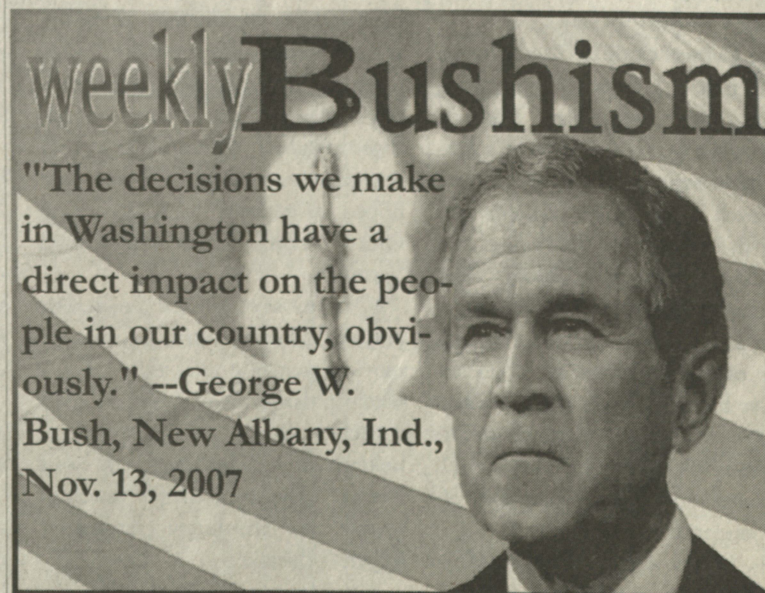
Towson University has also seen an outbreak, with more than 100 of their students showing the symptoms.

Here, between 10 - 20 students are sent to the Immediate Care Center



Internet photo

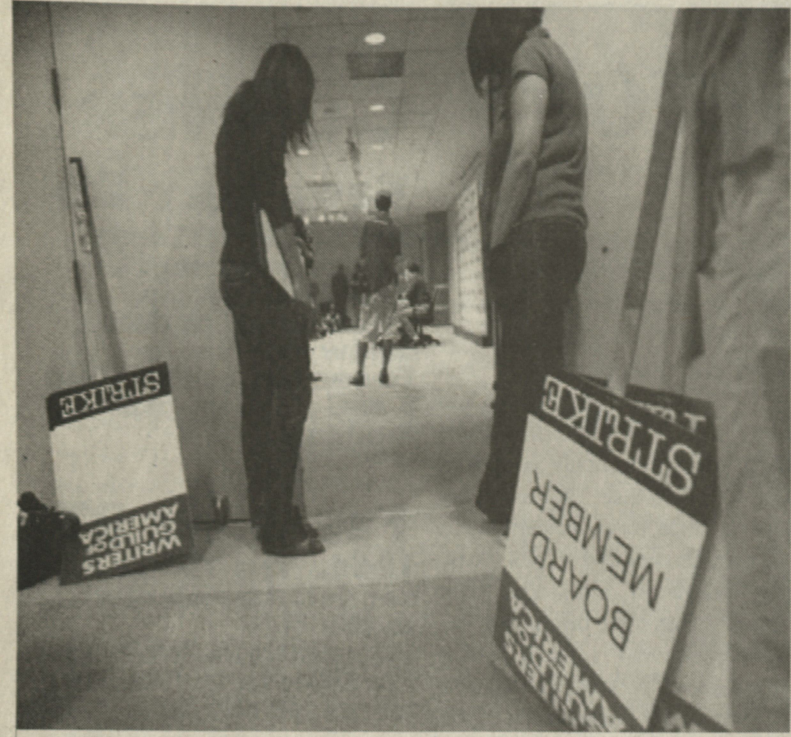
Republican nominee Andy Harris (center) poses with former Governor Bob Ehrlich and his wife, Kendall, at the Perry Hall Fair in July of 2007.



"The decisions we make in Washington have a direct impact on the people in our country, obviously." -George W. Bush, New Albany, Ind., Nov. 13, 2007

SEE Wikipedia PG. 4

Writers' strike finally ends



Internet photo

By Doug Allers
Staff Writer

The three-month standoff on all your favorite television shows has officially been settled. The Writers Guild of America announced on Tuesday, Feb. 12, that it will end its 100-day strike, which began in the fall of 2007.

In an overwhelmingly positive vote, 92.5 percent were in favor of a resolution. Issues of the strike were mainly concerned with DVD residuals, new media such as online streaming and downloading, and an induction of animators and reality television workers into its membership.

According to *People Magazine*, "Under the new deal, producers agreed to give writers a piece of the profit from programs that run on the Internet. Writers also will receive an increase in residual payments for movies and TV shows downloaded online."

Many people felt the strike was unnecessary. Audiences were certainly dismayed when production of many of their favorite television shows was halted. However, the Writers Guild had a lot of support

too. Many believed it was appropriate for them to be demanding more rights. Celebrities such as Tina Fey, Katherine Heigl and Steve Carell would often be seen accompanying writers on the picket lines, while Sen. Barack Obama and Sen. Hillary Clinton also voiced their opinions, backing the Writers Guild.

According to CNN, "The strike's end [will] allow many hit series to return this spring for what's left of the current season, airing anywhere from four to seven new episodes. Shows with marginal audience members may not return until fall or could be canceled."

So where does this leave your favorite shows? According to *TV Guide*, each network is still working on its post-strike plans. The magazine emphasizes that the schedule is tentative, but gives a rundown on when each network's most popular shows should return.

CBS has intentions of airing new episodes of its shows in March. ABC has announced that *Grey's Anatomy* and *Ugly Betty* are expected to shoot five new episodes to air starting April 24. *Desperate Housewives* is expected to shoot 6

The past, present and future of the Pakistan People's Party after Benazir

Brandon M. Smith
Staff Writer

"Islam is our faith, democracy is our politics, socialism is our economy; All power to the people!"

These are the declared principles of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP). The left of center PPP has recently been in the news because of the assassination of its chairwoman, Benazir Bhutto, on Dec. 27, 2007.

Benazir Bhutto was the first woman elected to a Muslim state, having been voted Prime Minister of the National Assembly twice in 1988 and 1993.

While the facts around Bhutto's death are still surrounded in a veil of political intrigue, many believe she was assassinated for being decidedly outspoken against Pakistan's current military government and dictator Pervez Musharraf. Musharraf came to power in 1999 through a military coup d'état.

Vocal opposition to military government and dictatorship of any kind, however, has always been a cornerstone of the PPP's ideology though out their history.

The PPP was founded by Zulfikar Ali Bhutto at its first convention on Nov. 30 - Dec. 1, 1967, in Lahore, Pakistan as opposition to the dictatorship of the Ayub Khan government. Khan was at the peak of his power at the time. Headquartered in the southern province of Sindh, the PPP has its most prevalent support in the highly populated province of Punjab. Along with its declared principles, the party also espoused the elimination of feudalism in Pakistan.

The expressed goals for which the party was formed were the establishment of an "egalitarian democracy" and the "application of socialistic ideas to realize economic & social justice," according to the organization's Web site, www.ppp.org. The party has also historically been a prominent supporter of women's rights in a political arena dominated by conservative religious fundamentalism.

The economic policies of the PPP

petition to "tell the infidels and keifers not to publish, host or carry images of our prophets..." He added that if the staff of Wikipedia would not remove the pictures, then they should "be prepared to face the wrath of god...and [the] consequences."

According to Wikipedia, there are databases of encyclopedia entries in "more than 250 languages." Many languages can not be translated between each other efficiently. Therefore, there are about 75,000 active contributors working to make coherent pages available in every language. Another simple survey reveals that there is a visible correlation between the content included in certain languages, and the prevailing beliefs and values of the language's respective people.

According to Fox News, the English, Dutch, German, French, Spanish and Russian Wikipeidias, for instance, do include images of the prophet Muhammad, while the Arabic and Turkish versions do not.

What will come of the debacle between the Muslim community and Wikipedia's stance on displaying images of the Prophet Muhammad is yet unclear. Judging by the ever-increasing number of petition signers, however, it seems that there will continue to be unrest in many people's hearts until Wikipedia removes the images.

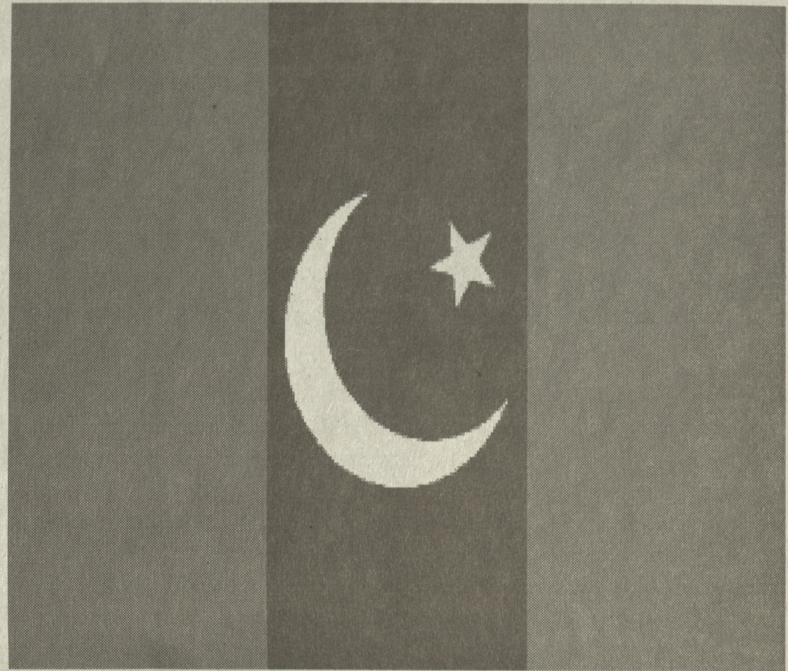
person respectively. In 1982, ill with cancer, Nusrat stepped down as acting chairperson of the party and passed leadership to her daughter Benazir.

Under Benazir Bhutto, the PPP continued to support left-of-center politics while the majority of its focus shifted to establishing democracy in Pakistan. After Benazir Bhutto's death, the leadership of the PPP shifted to Benazir Bhutto's son, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

Dr. Len Robinson, political science professor at Salisbury University, gave his thoughts on the future of the party following Benazir Bhutto's death.

"Pakistan People's Party has a challenge following the death of Benazir gaining the strength to challenge the military government of Musharraf. In a move motivated by self interest, they are most likely trying to form a coalition with other political parties in Pakistan; most likely the Pakistan Muslim League; in order to challenge Musharraf. How strong this coalition will be is questionable however, since the Muslim League is far more conservative than the traditionally left-of-center Pakistan People's Party," Robinson said.

Following Z. A. Bhutto's death, leadership of the party fell to his widow, Nusrat Bhutto, and his daughter Benazir. They took the roles of chairperson and co-chair-



Internet photo



Internet Photo

Sen. Barack Obama accused of plagiarism

By Michel Elben
Staff Writer

"If candidacy is about words, they should be your own words," said Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton during a significant debate Thursday in Austin, Texas, with Senator Barack Obama while continuing to compete for the democratic presidential nomination.

Clinton referred to Obama's alleged recycling of one his campaign co-chair's rhetorical speeches. *The Boston Globe*, among others, reported that Obama and his co-chair Governor Deval Patrick have both said, "I have a dream"—just words? "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal"—just words! "We have nothing to fear but fear itself." Just words—just speeches!

The Clinton camp accused Obama of plagiarizing the speech the evening before the Wisconsin primary. Although it would appear to be a substantial issue, it did not seem to create a setback at the polls. Obama had used this speech in Milwaukee and Patrick delivered it in 2006. The speeches are almost indistinguishable. The Clinton camp released comparisons of the speeches on YouTube the day the story broke the headlines. The speech contains references to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Declaration of Independence.

The media and the Clinton campaign have become incensed over this

issue because "When an author plagiarizes from another author there is damage done to two different parties. One is to the person he plagiarized from. The other is to the reader," said Howard Wolfson, a senior advisor and communications director for Hillary Rodham Clinton.

The Clinton camp believes this act speaks to the quality of Obama's character. One of Clinton's strategies has been to consistently rely on attacking Obama for using style rather than substance.

"Mr. Obama is running on the strength of his rhetoric and the strength of his promises and, as we have seen in the past couple of days, he's breaking his promises and the rhetoric isn't his own," Wolfson said.

Clinton seemed to enjoy attacking the substance of Obama's campaign. Although they agree on many issues, there is a wide gap in style and how to implement the change within those policies. Clinton has lost 11 straight contests to Obama and hopes to redeem those losses in Ohio, Texas, Rhode Island and Vermont.

While most of the debate seemed pleasant, Clinton continued to make mocking remarks such as, "Lifting a whole passage from someone else's speeches is not change you can believe in, it's change you can Xerox." She wanted the American people to absolutely remember Obama's mistake.

According to *The New York Times*,

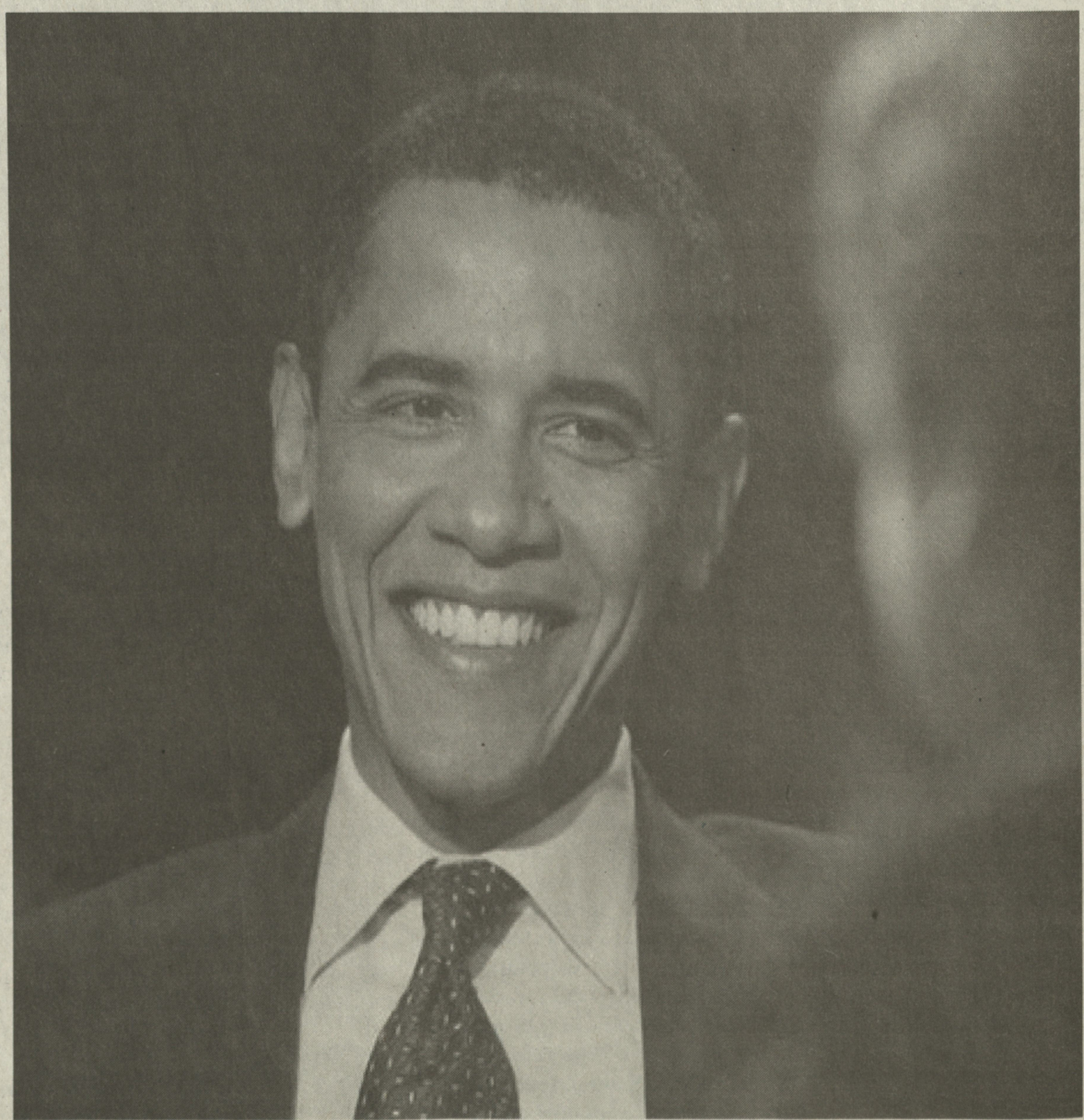
Senator Obama acknowledged that he made a mistake in not attributing the speech to Gov. Patrick. Obama said, "He had suggested that we use the lines...I thought they were good lines."

A Feb. 21 *Washington Post* poll suggested that the two are almost dead even in Texas. Clinton leads Obama 50 to 43 percent in Ohio. According to the Associated Press, "This is where we start getting into the silly season in politics and I think people get discouraged by it," Obama said.

Obama said that the reason his campaign is doing so well is that it is not just a matter of putting forth policy positions. He believes there is a fundamental distinction between himself and Clinton in how change comes about. "Without inspiring people," he said, "we will continue to see the kind of gridlock in Washington" that causes suffering."

"I do think words are important and words matter. But actions speak louder than words," Clinton said. According to the Associated Press, Clinton's camp believes her actions will evoke change through her strength, her life experience and her benevolence. Because of her experience in politics, she is tested and ready. If she takes the reins of this race, she could show men and women why she is the best choice.

Obama defended, "What we shouldn't be doing is spending time tearing each other down; we should be lifting the country up."



Internet photo

EDITORIAL

The Flyer: Vol. 35 Issue 15

February 26, 2008

Overheard: What's the funniest thing one of your professors has said or done?

Photos and article by: Sarah Wright



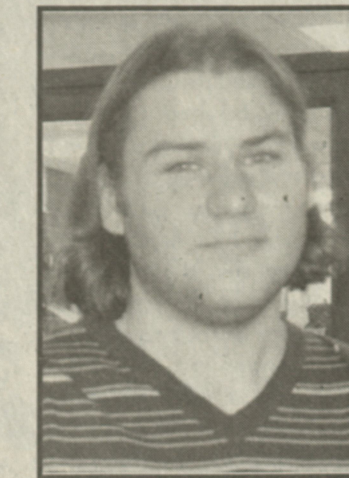
"I had a chemistry teacher who shot a gummi bear across the room."
Cathy Korpacz - sophomore



"[My English professor] said 'It's a celebration, bitches.'"
Brad Herson - freshman



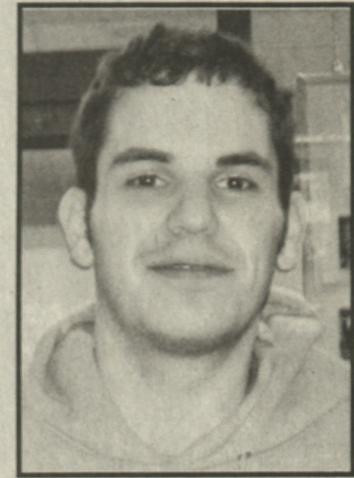
"When Dr. Kane gets excited he jumps around."
Brittany Smith - senior



"Dr. Miller threw soda on a student."
Chris Black - grad student



"Dr. Pica jumped off of his desk to demonstrate gravity."
Lindsey Metzler - sophomore



"Dr. Basehart was carrying a pinwheel across campus."
Patrick Armstrong - alumnus

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Castro's resignation is not the end

By Rachel Lopez
Staff Writer

Cuba has always been known for its cigars, its coffee and its leader: Fidel Castro.

Castro, one of the most powerful communist heads in the world, has finally announced his resignation on Feb. 19 in a letter addressed to the nation posted on the Web site of Granma, the official publication of the Cuban Communist Party (PCC). For many Cubans comes as a great relief, as they were stifled under Castro's 49-year rule. Cuba is a totalitarian state controlled by Fidel Castro, who is chief of state, head of government, first secretary of the PCC and commander in chief of the armed forces, according to www.state.gov.

A shift in power arrived in July 2006, when Castro handed over temporary rule to his brother Raul Castro due to illness of the colon,

according to the New York Times. In his letter released on Feb. 10, Castro, 81, stated that his failing health will no longer allow him to

remain President. Castro wrote, "I will not aspire to, nor will I accept the position of president of the council of state and commander in chief...I wish only to fight as a soldier of ideas."

Instead of a "soldier of ideas," many would call Fidel an oppressor of freedom. Having a grandfather

from Cuba myself I have often had to hear of the angst that many of the Cuban people feel towards their former President. Many of the

rights written in the Cuban constitution have been taken away by the government, a.k.a. Fidel Castro. Fidel is a man who has outlasted American presidents, assassination attempts and criticism from all over the world. It seems quite difficult to believe that just because he is no longer the "head of state" that he will have no say in the future plans of Cuba.

According to an article on CNN.com, Cuba's leaders plan to elect a President within days. Fidel's Brother, Raul, 76, the country's defense minister, has constitutionally been named his successor as vice president, but the final decision has not been made as of yet. In a country where communism and oppression have seemed so

SEE CASTRO PG. 6

Kosovo becomes inspiration to the oppressed

By Jeremy Riffle
Staff Writer

On Sunday, Feb. 17, a new nation, the Republic of Kosovo, declared its independence from the Republic of Serbia. The unilateral decision of Kosovo's legislature to declare independence has been controversial, with many countries, Russia leading them, claiming that there is now a "precedent" for independence movements across the globe. Those states that support Kosovo's decision claim that there is no precedent as Kosovo is a unique case of national sovereignty. While it will take some time to discover which argument is correct, the independence of Kosovo should be an inspiration, even a precedent, to all marginalized and oppressed peoples who yearn to be free.

The history of Kosovo is distinguished by its long struggle for political freedom and rights. The region first began to demand its rights in the 1970s, as a province of the Socialist Republic of Serbia, the largest republic in the Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia. Autonomy was granted in 1974; however, this autonomy was virtually stripped away by Serbia in 1989. In 1991, a parallel government in Kosovo declared the region to be independent, but Albania was the only state to recognize it. Tensions between Kosovo and Serbia came to a breaking point in the late 1990s after the emergence of the Kosovo Liberation Army, an ethnically Yugoslav military and Serbian police in Kosovo, the violence of which led many Europeans to deem it "ethnic cleansing." To end a worsening humanitarian crisis, NATO began a bombing campaign of Yugoslav and Serbian installations, compelling

the Yugoslav government to agree to a peace agreement that indefinitely left Kosovo under United Nations supervision, which lasted until last Sunday, when the independent Republic of Kosovo was created. Serbia's supporters maintain the belief that Kosovo's independence sets a precedent that has worldwide repercussions. They claim that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of established states will now be subordinate to nationalistic and separatist whims. These concerns, however, can be countered by presenting the ethnic violence and marginalization of the 20th century. Throughout the past 100 years, genocides have devast-



Internet photo

tated the ranks of ethnic groups. The slaughter of Armenians in the Ottoman Empire, Jews and Roma in Nazi-controlled Europe, ethnic minorities in Cambodia, Maya in Guatemala, Bengalis during the Bangladesh Liberation War and Kurds in Iraq are all examples of attempts to ethnically cleanse certain areas, and this is only a partial list.

After a century like the previous one, when genocide and ethnic violence reached unprecedented levels, is it not right that nations that have been marginalized by their governments, that have suffered terrible injustices, should be able to separate from those governments and be free to pursue their own prosperity? Instead of hav-

ing a static international system of states that can ignore the wishes of entire groups of citizens, there would be a new dynamic system, where nations could demand that their government fulfill their needs or they would withdraw from the system that oppresses and disregards them.

If the international community would allow such a system of self-determination to exist, it could bring an end to destructive civil wars by protecting the right of groups to secede from their parent states. Violent disputes such as the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the conflict between Turkey and Kurdish rebels, the Kashmir conflict, the Second Chechen War and others could be resolved if the collective wishes of the people of the rebelling regions were respected by all. In addition, regions where cultural assimilation is being forced onto peoples who desire to preserve their own cultural identity, such as Tibet and Xinjiang in the People's Republic of China, would be free to pursue their own course of cultural development. Also, regions that are virtually independent, but not recognized as such, like Western Sahara, Northern Cyprus and Taiwan would finally have their status issues resolved, if only the international community would respect their right to be independent.

Some hold that such a system would be chaotic, with dozens of new states coming into existence and entire countries splintering. However, it does not have to be so. States that are concerned about losing territory to nationalist groups could prevent secession by being fair to these groups, allowing them to preserve their identities and control their own existences. That would be a compromise that virtually everyone could accept.

~SUDOKU~ The Rules of Sudoku

The classic Sudoku game involves a grid of 81 squares. The grid is divided into nine blocks, each containing nine squares.

The rules of the game are simple: each of the nine blocks has to contain all the numbers 1-9 within its squares. Each number can only appear once in a row, column or box.

The difficulty lies in that each vertical nine-square column, or horizontal nine-square line across, within the larger square, must also contain the numbers 1-9, without repetition or omission.

Every puzzle has just one correct solution. Good luck.

	2	1	8			9	6	
7		8	3					
				4		3		
8	9					7	2	
	5			3				
					4	6		9
	7	5			9	3	1	

Difficulty Rating: Evil

Solution to last week's puzzle:

7	3	6	2	8	9	5	4	1
2	9	5	1	4	7	8	3	6
8	1	4	5	3	6	7	2	9
9	8	2	6	5	1	4	7	3
1	4	3	9	7	8	6	5	2
6	5	7	4	2	3	9	1	8
4	6	9	7	1	2	3	8	5
5	2	8	3	6	4	1	9	7
3	7	1	8	9	5	2	6	4

Obama takes the lead... ...and rightfully so



Internet photo

By Derek Pettinelli
Staff Writer

Politics seem to have gained a newfound importance after two terms of Bush. Everyone is craving change, any kind of change. Even the laughable voting campaigns of the last election ("Vote or Die," anyone?) seem to pale in comparison to the Obama-mania that has taken over. Barack Obama is the new favorite candidate, easily more popular than Republican rival John McCain and fellow Democratic contender Hillary Clinton.

Born to a black Kenyan father and white American mother, Barack spent most of his childhood in Honolulu, HI, in addition to spending four years (from ages 6-10) in Jakarta with his mother and Indonesian stepfather. He was educated at Columbia University and Harvard Law School and has spent time as a community organizer. He was a University of Chicago lecturer as well as a civil rights lawyer before he served in the Illinois Senate from 1997-2004. Since announcing his bid for president on Feb. 10, 2007, his campaign has only

shown signs of increasing in strength.

Obama is known for being a powerful and emotive speaker, causing rounds of applause to ring through following his speeches. People from all walks of life, regardless of race, are drawn to him and he's especially popular with the younger demographic. Just recently, on Feb. 22, with the Democrats Abroad program, Obama was announced as the winner with 11 primary or caucus victories in a row. Universal health care is considered a major talking point of the upcoming election and he has said that it's wrong that 47 million Americans are uninsured and that taxpayers already pay \$15 billion per year in order to care for those without insurance. With the economy in such dire shape, universal health care will certainly be a challenge for the failing dollar to try to overcome. Ending Bush's tax cuts to the wealthy and closing tax loopholes that will help benefit the working class is something that remains important. Obama and Clinton both are in favor of ending federal raids on medical marijuana

facilities and while Clinton is against decriminalization, Obama has said that the term "decriminalization" needs to be further classified. Conversely, McCain supported spending more millions on the futile attempt to continue the war on drugs, a strain that the economy can't handle. Obama has called America's oil purchases an "addiction," he stressed the importance of "going green" and focusing on solar, wind and biodiesel energy sources, which will help alleviate the over \$1 billion that is spent on oil.

Known for his strong stances that make his speeches so memorable, he is a supporter of network neutrality, a principle of civil liberties which allows the Internet to remain neutral with no overreach to potentially censor or push an agenda. Obama has spoken out many times against lobbying in the U.S., stating that there is too much influence and emphasis placed on it. Obama said, "It is because the Internet is a neutral platform that I can put out this podcast and transmit it over the Internet without having to go through any corporate media middleman. I can say what I want without censorship or without having to pay a special charge. But the big telephone and cable companies want to change the Internet as we know it."

Obama is easily the Democratic candidate of choice, if just for Clinton's failure to live in the real world, constantly flip-flopping and generally speaking with a sense of mimicry. I've lost count of the times she's said, "I agree with Obama." Hillary has resorted to acts of desperation like name-calling and spewing nonsense regarding Obama and doesn't hesitate to let the waterworks flow, which can't help her image. McCain's stances are radically different from the Democrats and I think that alone is enough to make him lose, due to the Republican Party being tarnished by Bush. It's also important to note that those who claim Obama is all talk fail to notice his record of bills sponsored in the Senate, which is comparable to Clinton, with 299 sponsored by Hillary in her first four years, while Obama had 265 in his first three years.

of key sectors such as electronics imports, cigar exports and tourism.

After 49 years of Castro as the head of Cuba, it would be quite silly to think that the resignation of Cuba's president would change the small nation drastically. Yet, even our own president believes that Cuba will soon be able to change. President Bush has stated that Castro's decision ought to spark "democratic transition" for Cuba. Perhaps in Bush's mind this is now a perfect time to discuss Cuba-U.S. relations, but it may not come as easy as some might think. Fidel is still very much in the picture, though some may be too naive to see it. A democracy is likely still many years away from Cuba, but hopefully with a new president there will be a change for the better. We can only hope that this will lead to a happier life for those in Cuba and a better relationship and understanding not just with the United States but with all countries around the world.

According to CBSnews.com, the people of Cuba hope that if Fidel's brother does become president he will move toward a communist system more like Vietnam or China where the leaders control all things political but let the markets largely rule their economies. As defense minister, Raul put Cuba's military at the forefront of the economy, as he and top military officers assumed control



Internet photo

Universal healthcare hurts you

By Mary Simonds
Staff Writer

Universal healthcare is a government effort intended to extend healthcare coverage to all citizens of a governmental region. Typically, most health care costs are met by the population through compulsory health insurance, taxation or a combination of both.

Many people in the United States support the universal healthcare stance and believe all Americans are entitled to healthcare and deserve that right. I totally disagree with this stance.

Universal healthcare may seem like a good idea at first, but there are many things that people do not put into consideration before becoming a supporter of this idea. Americans are always looking for a perfect answer and unfortunately there is not one.

First, if Americans want universal healthcare they must be willing to pay significantly more taxes. "Free" healthcare is not free. It just means that those who pay taxes pay for not only their healthcare, but also for the care of those who do not pay taxes. Those of us who pay taxes would pay much more for health care than we do now. Citizens must want to receive healthcare and not rely on other people's money.

Another downfall of universal healthcare is that medical care may be rationed and prioritized. At first this does not sound too bad, until it is you that is not the priority. Additionally, universal healthcare impacts the time people have to wait for treatment and this would not be good for our nation.

I recently read a story online about a man who lives in the UK. He had to wait years for a much-needed back surgery. He had gone from a fairly healthy farmer to hardly being able to walk. The universal healthcare plan made it impossible for him to get the surgery when he needed it. I personally do not want anyone I know to have to suffer like this man did. I'm sure you don't either.

Another negative aspect of universal healthcare is that it destroys physician incentives to provide competitive care and destroys companies' incentives to provide new drugs and treatments. Drug companies would be deterred by price controls and regulations. This would soon stop the research and develop-

ment of new medication.

Possibly the worst result of universal healthcare is that the quality of universal healthcare will deteriorate and the average citizen will get sicker. The poor and middle class will have to suffer while they wait for simple procedures. How is this going to help American citizens? It's not. It will just make them sicker.

I lived in England for a year and know firsthand how stressful it is when you get sick and have to go to the doctor. No appointments are allowed. If I was sick, I would have to go to the hospital and wait hours on end just to be told that I have a cold and to get plenty of rest and drink a lot of liquids. It would have taken an hour at the most to hear that from my pediatrician in the U.S.

To make matters worse, my family would have to go into the hospital just to get their medication renewed. Who has time for all of this? Being at the hospital is never a good experience, but under universal healthcare, people would be spending hours upon hours at hospitals.

Many people believe that universal healthcare is a right that every citizen has. It is not. The only unalienable rights we have according to the Declaration of Independence are the rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That's all. What do these rights have in common? They are rights to action, not to rewards from other people. It guarantees you the chance to work for

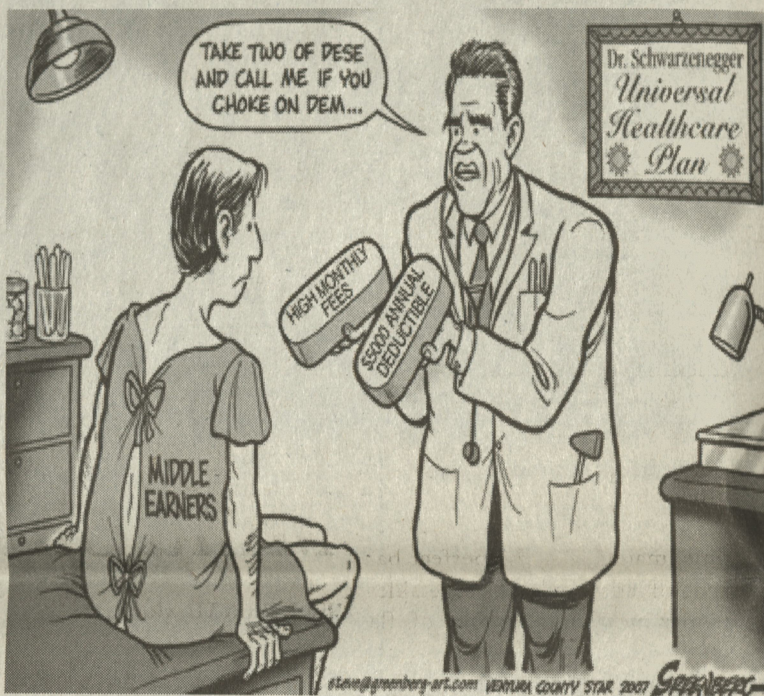
what you want—not to be given it without any effort by somebody else.

Under Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton's universal healthcare plan, quality medicine in this country will disappear because it will finish off the medical profession. The pay for doctors and quality of doctors would decrease.

Doctors who specialize in neurology, for example, would be testing patients for flu-like symptoms on a day-to-day basis. Why would anyone want to become a doctor if this were the case? I know I wouldn't want to spend eight years in school to become a doctor just to be employed by the government and not making the money I deserve.

If people would just look at the facts, they would see how awful it would be if universal healthcare was employed in the United States. Why do so many citizens of other countries come to the United States for surgeries that they have to pay for? The answer: the United States has the best medical doctors and facilities in the world and in the United States patients do not need to wait years for a surgery they need.

Universal healthcare may seem like it is a quick solution to make sure everyone has healthcare in the United States, but it will obviously cause more harm than good. Please take into consideration who you are going to support in this election because your health depends on it.



Internet photo

Shootings result of psychologically disturbed

By Lauren Zarin
Staff Writer

By now the country has heard of the most recent school shootings, which took place at Northern Illinois University. Steven Kazmierczak, an "award-winning" sociology student and leader of a campus criminal justice group, opened fire in one of the school's lecture halls on Feb. 15. 21 were shot and five killed before the gunman took his own life.

The saddest aspect of the story is the familiarity. Though the devastation of this type of incident never declines, the shock value has seemed to taper off. Occurring in the shadows of events like Columbine and Virginia Tech, the NIU shooting received less news coverage and less national upheaval. The pervading question on everyone's mind seems to revolve around the effectiveness of security on college campuses. Perhaps the subject under the microscope should be: "What's going wrong with today's students?"

After the NIU shooting, an article titled "Are We Safe on Campus?" was posted on CNN.com. Of course students are not safe on campus. However, the fault doesn't lie in the school's measures of security. Since Virginia Tech, universities around the country have all upped their security. The number of school policemen has increased, "blue light" poles with emergency phones or buttons have been installed, text message alert systems have been instituted and overall awareness of potential danger has increased. Any school wants its students to be safe. If pessimistic skeptics fail to believe that a school cares about its students' well-being, they can at least comprehend that no school wants to see its enrollment numbers plummet due to fear of danger on their campus. Schools are doing everything they can to offer

protection.

In the case of the NIU shooting, the student concealed his weapons inside of a guitar case and under his jacket. According to CNN, when Kazmierczak burst into the lecture hall and opened fire, police were on the scene in less than a minute. Authorities said that while they did respond within seconds, they also vow to see what they might have done better. There is nothing they could have done better. Mere seconds are all it takes for shots to be fired and lives to be lost. Short of putting armed policemen on guard at every door, in every class, on every campus in the United States, there is nothing that can be done to ensure that students are 100 percent safe. The focus needs to shift from what can be done on the outside to offer protection to what needs to be done from within the student body.

The gunmen at Columbine High School were described as smart, involved students. Cho Seung-Hui was a quiet, withdrawn student at Virginia Tech. Kazmierczak was described by all who knew him as an ever-present excellent student, a wonderfully kind and caring person, an over-achiever. It seems that these are the most unlikely candidates to commit mass murder. However, there were red flags in every situation. The killers at Columbine had



Internet photo

journals that discussed a desire to commit suicide and plans of a school massacre that dated back to more than a year before the actual event. Cho Seung-Hui had written disturbing plays that worried his professor. He was bullied relentlessly. Some say that in the case of Kazmierczak there were no warning signs, but several close to him say that he'd been seeing a psychiatrist and had recently stopped taking his medication.

There was mental illness, bullying and/or depression in every case. Is the problem related to the pressure

that students are put under in school or by parents? Is it simply a case of chemical imbalances in the brain? Maybe children should be taught from a young age about sensitivity and the effect that bullying has on others. Maybe further monitoring should be instituted by counselors and teachers for students who have any history of mental illness. Whatever the solution, efforts need to be directed at mending today's psychologically disturbed youth. Outside security is merely a band-aid fix for a much graver problem.

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The Flyer: Vol. 35 Issue 15

GUC stir fry class cooks up interest at SU

By Jillian Verpent
Staff Writer

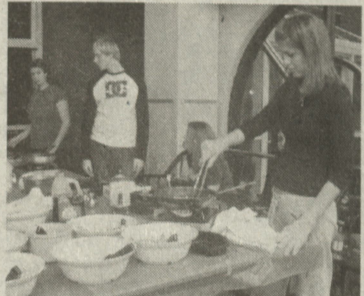
The aroma of flavors wafting through the air in the Gull's Nest dining area drew a small group of onlookers who gathered to see what was making their mouths water.

It was the stir fry cooking class led by SU Sous Chef Matt Conley that was getting all of the attention. About 15 students attended the first stir fry cooking class on Thursday at SU, an activity arranged by GUC Events.

"We have a bunch of fun and interesting events and activities for students to take part in," said Caitlin Tyler, an SU junior who works for GUC Events.

"One of the draws of stir fry is that it's easy," said Brian Lind, who oversees GUC Events. "Students can cook it at home, and it's healthy."

Stir fry is a quick and simple cooking method packed with



Telecia Taylor photo
Using the microwave isn't the only way to be quick and easy.

plenty of flavor. The technique has been used by the Chinese for centuries. Ingredients included chicken, shrimp, plenty of fresh vegetables and an array of sauces to cook with. The best way to prepare stir fry is in a wok. The ingredients are cooked over a high temperature for a short period of time, maintaining the perfect balance of crisp, colorful vegetables, tender meat and a variety of flavors.

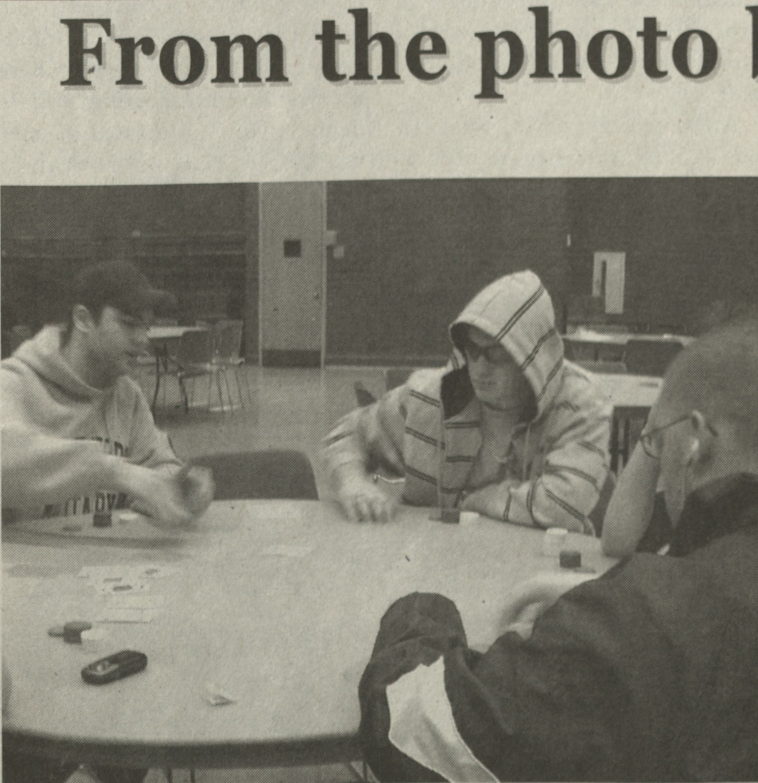
"This proves that you don't have to do microwave food to be quick and easy," Conley said.

The students had a good time preparing their meals. The class provided valuable knowledge and the chance to interact and socialize with friends. Each person chose his or her own ingredients and sauces and got the opportunity to learn how to prepare their food. Conley was a very interactive teacher. He went over the basics and then offered individual help for any student who needed it.

"Matt takes the time to be around the students," Lind said.

In the past, GUC Events has held omelet and sushi classes. Lind said they get a different mix of students each time, which is good because it has helped make the events a success. They are looking into holding a cake decorating class later in the semester. The popularity of the stir fry class has opened up the possibility of having another one of those, too.

"I thought the class was great," student Charlene Kivlon said. "It was easy, fun, and a free meal."



Telecia Taylor photo

Players put on their poker faces and deal out the cards at Saturday's Texas Hold 'Em Tournament hosted by the Economics Society.

Spice Night helps Relay get what it really, really wants

By Katelyn Johnson
Staff Writer

They're back! Eight years after their last number one hit, the Spice Girls are conquering the world once again, this time with a world tour reunion and greatest hits collection. Salisbury University celebrated their return with Friday's "Spice Night" sponsored by SOAP. The event also commemorated the tenth anniversary of the movie *Spice World*.

A surprisingly coed crowd of about 200 filled the Wicomico room to take part in the event and celebrate the group; a heavy favorite from many students' elementary school days. Some in the crowd showed their enthusiasm by copying the Spice Girls' unique and memorable dress code. An English tea and dessert bar was available to fans while they waited for the action to get underway.

The night was kicked off with a round of Spice Girls trivia. Tables were eliminated fairly quickly until only one remained and the lucky winners were presented with the Spice Girls' greatest hits collection.

"The trivia part was fun but pretty tough. Sorry, I liked the Spice Girls back in the fifth grade so I don't know the name of their manager or anything," said Aubrey Leas.

The trivia was followed by a screening of the group's hit movie: *Spice World*. The movie plots seem to loosely follow the girls' adventures on their way to a major live concert. Along the way, the girls deal with low-life tabloid reporters, a UFO encounter and meet Elton John. The group also managed to revive a young boy trapped in a coma



Sarah Wright photo

Lauren Lantner, Whitney Steere, Crystal Stelling and Lauren Milnac celebrate the notion that "friendship never ends" at Spice Night.

and help deliver their friend's baby. The movie was a hit back in 1997 when it grossed 100 million at the box office and through DVD sales.

"I wanted to go to Spice Night because when I was growing up I loved the Spice Girls. They were my favorite band," Leas said. The group formed in 1994 with their first hit, "Wannabe," hitting the charts in 1996. The quintet was an immediate hit with preteen girls, going on to release three albums and 13 singles that sold more than 55 million records worldwide. The group's slogan of "Girl Power!" was everywhere.

The Spice Girls swiftly grew to iconic status. Today it is impossible to watch a 90s tribute without multiple Spice Girl references. No

one's memory of platform footwear will ever be the same. In fact, Geri Halliwell's trademark Union Jack dress was auctioned off in a frenzy of bidding for \$70,786.80.

The demise of the group began in 1998 when Halliwell, better known to some fans as Ginger Spice, announced she was leaving the group due to differences among members. The others were determined to continue on and never officially announced a break up, but the group of four was never the same. The girls soon became involved in individual efforts, from solo careers to family life.

After seven years with no singles released, all five Spice Girls held a press conference in June of

collecting data on 171 families that settled in Rondônia due to a government paid resettlement project. In 2000, when she returned they could only locate 170 of these families, but in 2006 the number of families surveyed jumped from 170 to 285. In addition to the survey data, the team also collected GPS data that measured the geographical change of the province.

Dr. Caviglia-Harris began speaking about her lessons learned. One of the most comedic lessons was,

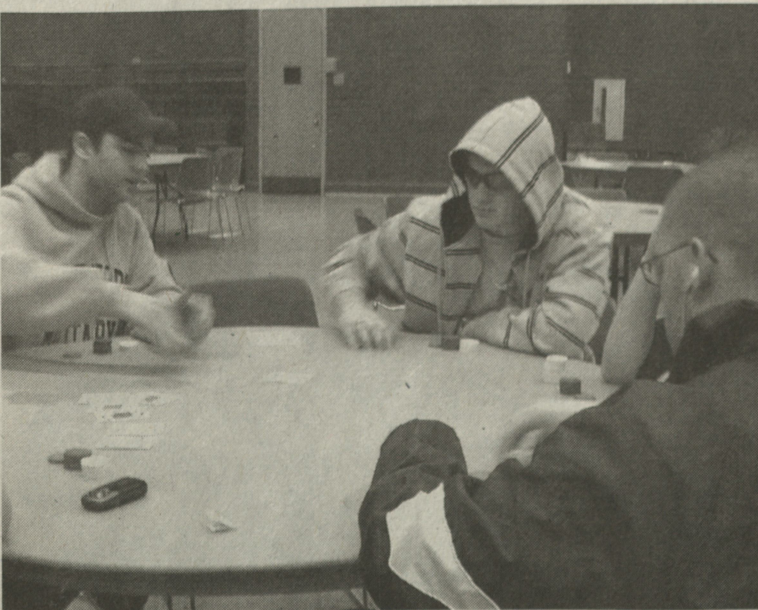
"Ants are venomous, something I never knew before I went into the field." She then continued to regale her audience with her story of being bitten by an ant while walking through the rainforest and "feeling the venom rising up my leg." She had many stories from her trip, including a bad experience with cashew oil. Evidently, cashew nut oil is closely related to poison sumac as she found out when a blister formed where the oil and her skin made contact.



Sarah Wright photo

Dr. Jill Caviglia-Harris presents "Shades of Green: Lessons from Fieldwork in the Brazilian Amazon" on Feb. 19 in the Honors House.

From the photo bank: What's happening on campus



Telecia Taylor photo

Players put on their poker faces and deal out the cards at Saturday's Texas Hold 'Em Tournament hosted by the Economics Society.



Kathy Pusey photo

Ronald Clyburn, Norman Galloway, Jeannette Chavous, Vaughn White, Jada Bailey and Eleanor Galloway at Alvin Ailey II.

2007 announcing their plans to reunite. Included in these plans were a world tour, a greatest hits collection and an official reunion documentary. The Girls emerging from the break-up may have lost their platform sneakers and a bit of their wild edge, but their "Girl Power!" spirit remained.

It seems as though the Spice Girls did not lose any popularity during their hiatus, especially in their hometown of London. The first concert date sold out in 38 seconds, with 16 additional sold out dates added on.

In Nov., the Spice Girls released yet another single, "Headlines (Friendships Never End)," which then became the official Children in Need charity single. The Spice Girls showcased their new song in their first public appearance since the reunion at the Victoria's Secret fashion show in Los Angeles where they performed "Headlines" along with their 1998 hit single, "Stop."

On Feb. 1, Spice fans were once again put on hold as the girls called a premature end to their world tour due to personal and family commitments. According to BBC News, the group released a statement saying, "Really sorry if we didn't get to see you this time around. We all have other commitments in our lives now, but who knows what will happen next."

Tickets to the SOAP event were free; however a one or two dollar donation was greatly appreciated. The night ended up bringing in over \$100 for Relay for Life, and donors were entered into a raffle to win a pink iPod. Everyone who attended the event also left the night with a keepsake mug to commemorate the evening.

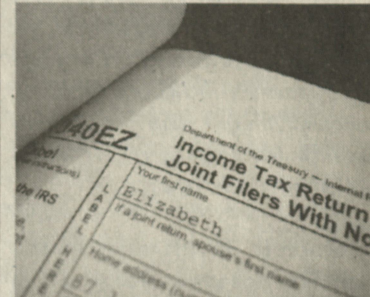
SHORE UP! provides free income tax help

By Kellie Madden
Staff Writer

Need help with your taxes? This year SHORE UP! Inc. is offering free income tax preparation for families and individuals making less than \$40,000 a year. Volunteers from both Salisbury University and the SHORE UP! staff are contributing their time and expertise to help with tax preparation. This year is the first year SHORE UP! has offered the free tax service.

Planning Coordinator for SHORE UP! Inc. Alicia Robinson said the program gives students hands on experience and a chance to work with people. So far, she said, the program has helped almost 300 people with their taxes.

Robinson said this year three Salisbury accounting students are serving as volunteers, as well as staff members from the accounting department at SHORE UP!, who are devoting their time and services without compensation. Salisbury



Internet photo

Tax help is available to those making less than \$40,000 per year.

University accounting and legal studies professor Dr. George Summers helped arrange SU student volunteers for the program, Robinson said.

"We think the program is a great partnership between Salisbury University and SHORE UP!" said Robinson. "We couldn't do the program without the help of Salisbury students. We're really grateful."

While volunteers are preparing clients' taxes, the program coordinator and other SHORE UP! staff will be on hand. Trained IRS certified volunteers will also be available to assist community members in claiming any special credits and deductions they may be eligible for, including the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Taxes will be done by appointment so that clients will not have to wait. The services are available now until April 10, at no charge. Appointments are held Monday and Wednesday evenings from 4:30 - 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., to allow flexibility for clients who work during the week.

If you're planning to utilize these free tax services you will need to bring this year's tax package, wage and earnings statement (W-2 Form) from all employers, interest statements from your bank (1099 Form), a copy of last year's tax return if available and other relevant information about income and expenses.

Appointments will be held at 500 Snow Hill Road, Salisbury, MD, 21804, in the front room of the red brick building on the corner of Vine Street and Snow Hill Drive. To schedule an appointment call 410-749-1142 ext. 330 or 356.



Sarah Wright photo

Students line up for Spice Night outside of the Wicomico Room Friday night. Spice Night helped raise money for Relay for Life.

Ms. Advice

Ms. Advice answers all your questions, even private ones, in complete confidentiality. Send your questions to:

kk14480@students.salisbury.edu



Ms. Advice

"I usually get pretty good grades, but this semester I feel like I've fallen behind. I'm playing a sport which takes up a lot of time and I can't figure out how to balance getting good grades and a social life. Any ideas?"

Since it is still early in the semester, chances are you can still catch up. It's great that you've acknowledged that you are doing poorly, but now you just need to set up a plan to get your grades up. First of all, you should prioritize. Make a list of things you need to get done and put them in order of things that are most important. Second, get rid of distractions. If you know you won't be able to study at your house, go to the library and sit upstairs. You'll be amazed at how much more you can get done if it's quiet. Next, get the most out of class. Get there on time and force yourself to pay attention. If you pay attention in class and understand what is going on, studying for that huge test will be a breeze. If you're having a problem in a class, take advantage of professor's office hours. They will be more willing to help you if they see you are helping yourself.

Getting a planner will help you prioritize your life. By writing everything down all you have to do is glance over what you have due that week. You can write down everything so that you don't forget something that could have been an easy "A" like a short

U-Turn Burgers: A new family dining experience

By Mike Brusoe
Staff Writer

There is a new burger joint in town trying to revolutionize the fast food and family dining experience. U-Turn Burgers, located in front of Home Depot off of Route 13 north, is taking a step up from the fast-paced dining world.

When I first arrived at the restaurant there seemed to be plenty of parking. The outside of the restaurant was inviting and really drew me in.

Upon entering the restaurant, I was greeted with a very warm and enticing atmosphere. The bright walls and open dining area provided a relaxed environment. I was greeted by one of the owners, Sybil Leidy, who made me feel right at home and showed me to the ordering counter.

I looked over the menu, which was simple and easy to read. I decided on the single burger with a side of cole slaw. The total for this meal came to four dollars and fifty cents, which is comparable to other fast-food restaurants.

homework assignment which could slip your mind. Make sure you are eating healthy as well. Eating a good breakfast will give your body carbohydrates and sugars to keep you energized and awake. Learning to say no will also help you prioritize your time. Try to avoid getting caught up in things that you don't really have time for, like seeing a movie that you really have no interest in just because everyone else is going. Simply saying no but being polite about it will free up time for things that are most important to you.

If you are playing a sport or active in a club, make a schedule for yourself and stick to it. If you know you have practice in the afternoons you might have to wake up an hour before your first class and finish a few assignments. Although it seems like a hassle you will get much more done and have less to worry about after a grueling practice. Remember that you go to school to get an education so everything else should be second on your priority list. Another thing to keep in mind is that you won't be able to play the sport if you can't keep your grades up due to academic eligibility.

Trying to be perfect is only going to set you up for defeat. Difficult tasks usually result in procrastination. Set realistic goals that are also challenging, like getting a "B" instead of an "A" in a difficult class. Realize that there is always time to turn things around. Good luck!

Economics Society hosts charity poker tournament in the University Center

By Danny Ross
Staff Writer

Gazing across all the tables seating eager contestants, it seemed as if the Wicomico Room may have been located in a Las Vegas casino on Saturday. The players could have easily been mistaken for the professionals that we see on "The World Series of Poker."

The sounds of poker chips being shuffled and poor hands being folded filled the room as the Economics Society Charity Poker tournament took place on Saturday afternoon in the Guerrieri University Center.

The tournament took place between noon and 4 p.m., but by 2 p.m. almost half of the contestants had been eliminated. By this point only the die-hard few remained. Men and women, some in sunglasses, others with hoods drawn tight around their faces, sat staring each other down and looking for some sort of clue as to their opponent's hand. There were also some onlookers, perhaps those who had been eliminated earlier or who came to root on their friends.

There was laughter and plenty of cans of Red Bull spread around the tables. You could hear an occasional "Are you kidding me?" or "I can't believe that I stayed in" when someone laid down their cards to collect a pot. There was also a moderator walking around counting the number of players left at different intervals during the event.

One young man, who was seen

angrily pushing his chair in after leaving a table and identified himself as "Slim," had this to say about his experience: "I stayed in as long as I could. These guys had great cards the whole time and I just didn't get any cards I could play with. I won two hands the whole time. Hopefully I can try again the next time they do a tournament."

Overall, the charity poker tournament had a very subdued feeling to it. There was no shouting and only minimal trash talk. Not that trash talk is a bad thing when it comes to Texas Hold'em Poker. People simply came here to have fun. There was no throwing of cards and certainly no "splashing the pot."

Shortly after 4 p.m., the

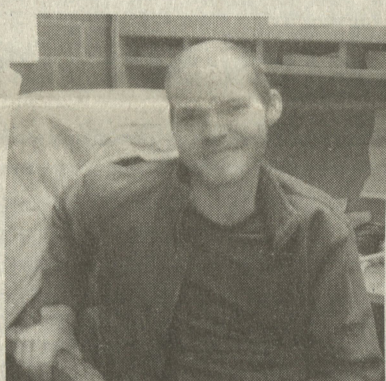
Wicomico Room became a simple and quiet room again. The players retreated and the soda cans and empty bags of sunflower seeds were gone. What remained behind were the memories of just missing the full-house, and the significance of raising money for a good cause while having a great time.



Sarah Wright photo

Poker players get serious at Saturday's Texas Hold 'Em Tournament. The money raised from the event is donated to the Costa Rica Alternative Spring Break program, where Econ. members volunteer.

People Making a Difference: Michael Piorunski



Telecia Taylor photo
ShoreCAN director Mike Piorunski

By Katie Murphy
Staff Writer

Many have most likely seen Michael Piorunski, Director of ShoreCAN, hard at work in his Career Services office, but may not know exactly what he does. Or maybe he has approached you while you were casually looking at one of his display boards to talk with you about volunteer opportunities. Either way, Piorunski is a very inspirational person and is motivated in many aspects of his life. Currently, Piorunski is training for a marathon to benefit a Leukemia foundation. The motivation to train for a marathon also helps inspire him to do his job.

"It's because I want to see changes in the community; big or small," Piorunski said. Piorunski, a former SU undergraduate student who was majoring in English as a second language education, has taken on the huge responsibility of Director of ShoreCAN. As the Director of ShoreCAN, Piorunski works under *VISTA, an AmeriCorps program. He has no set number of hours per week that he is required to work. Due to being the ShoreCAN director, Piorunski is required to always be on call and available 24 hours a day. He only makes 5 percent above the poverty rate, which ends up being \$700 a month.

"Living off of \$700 a month can be hard, as I am sure you can imagine," Piorunski said. He is not allowed to hold a second job because he has to be completely devoted to ShoreCAN. ShoreCAN is part of the Volunteer Maryland *VISTA project which is a program of the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism. The plan is suppose to build strong communities across

our state by developing volunteer and service-learning programs that meet the critical need in each specific area. Piorunski's role as ShoreCAN director is to place people who want to volunteer with organizations that need them. He normally places volunteers with nonprofit organizations. One aspect of Piorunski's job is to help nonprofit agencies find the volunteers it needs to make their projects run smoothly. Another aspect of being a ShoreCAN director is being the middle man who does all the hard, "behind the scenes work" when it comes to planning projects.

"I've been working really hard to find all the small organizations on the Shore and have them tell me what type of volunteers they need, how many and when they need them," Piorunski said. "It's a lot of work." Piorunski's favorite part of his job is being able to make connections in the community.

Finishing school and getting a degree are one of Piorunski's top goals for when he is done working for ShoreCAN. He dreams of traveling abroad, settling down and doing non-profit work in the future.

Piorunski feels that one of his greatest accomplishments is when he formed a hopefully lasting relationship between a Salisbury University sports team and a local basketball team who was looking for young mentors for its players. "I hope sustainable partnerships are built," Piorunski said.

Currently the Wicomico Mentoring Project is one of his top priorities. As part of this project mentors go into local schools and spend time with specific children. "Twelve minutes a day, that's all it takes. That is only one hour a week," Piorunski said. The Wicomico Mentoring Project is one that Piorunski is very passionate about. He himself is a mentor to a little boy. "There are hundreds of kids that still need mentors. It's what these kids look forward to each week," Piorunski said. Most of the time I just sit and listen because the boy I mentor has so much to tell me."

Currently, Piorunski is looking for mentors and volunteers for many different projects. You can contact Piorunski if interested in volunteering at shorecan@gmail.com.

Club SpotlightArt Club.....

By Samantha Sullivan
Staff Writer

It has been three or four years since an art club existed at Salisbury University, but this semester it is making a comeback. The Art Club is returning as a way for students to showcase their art work, become inspired and also inspire other students who may be interested in art but are not sure if they are great at it.

Art major Brandon Phillips and co-creator Micah Haddock are working with the Student Government Association to finish the process that will once again make them a registered student organization.

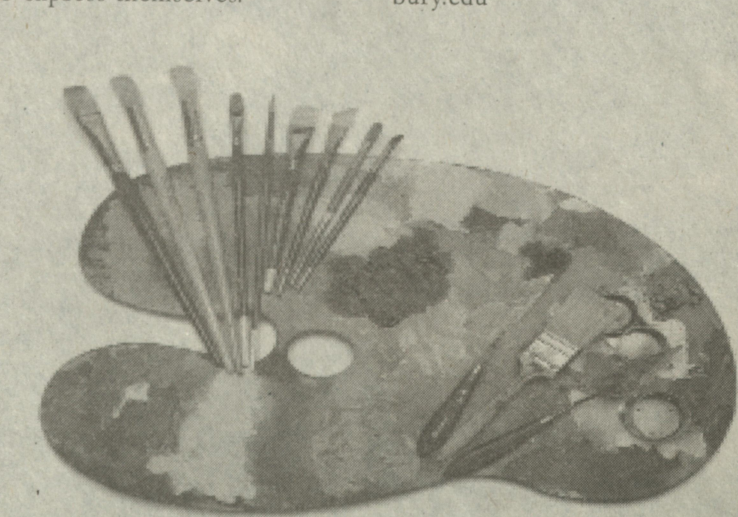
"The biggest thing that really got us started was that I took an art class. We had a project where we had to make some sort of website or something that would affect the campus community. We decided to make an art club," Phillips said.

In about two weeks, once the club is up and running, students will start planning activities. The club will host a drawing contest for the art club logo. Also, the club will have open meetings to gauge the level of interest from students. Regular meetings will probably be held at least once a month after the initial interest meeting.

Art is growing on the SU campus as many students are becoming art majors and minors, while others are just looking for a way to express themselves.

Anyone interested in joining the art club or just seeing what it is all about is encouraged to be on the lookout for signs around campus as to when and where the first interest meetings will be held. Anyone interested in joining the art club or networking should contact Brandon Phillips at bp07777@students.salisbury.edu

After a slight delay, the lights in the house dimmed and it was time for the lecture to begin. Dr. Warren, appearing on stage in a simple black outfit, with her long dreadlocks pulled behind her and gold earrings sparkling against the spot lights, was greeted with a warm and resounding applause from the audience. A well practiced teacher and lecturer, Dr.



Internet photo

The Art Club should be up and running in about two weeks. Look for posters around campus for the date of the first meeting.

In recognition of Black History Month, The Flyer would like to celebrate the life and achievements of Maya Angelou: A Woman of Inspiration



Internet photo

By Stacie Manger
Staff Writer

"History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again." These are words from the inspirational poet, novelist, activist and author Maya Angelou.

Angelou was born Marguerite Annie Johnson in St. Louis, Missouri. She endured an unpleasant childhood which involved being abused and raped. There was a time during her youth where she was relatively mute. She became a single mother at the age of 16 and took to a variety of jobs to support the baby and herself. Yet, despite the difficulties of her early life, Angelou persevered.

"Angelou is most well known for I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, which is, in large part, an autobiography," said Dr. Kelli Randall, SU English professor.

The novel is part of a series and is controversial because of its realistic language and the mention of a rape. In 1998, Anne Arundel

County's school board removed the book from the ninth grade reading list due to complaints from parents.

Randall said Angelou is also inspirational through her poetry and many of her works have been dramatized. Angelou's works give realistic depictions of the way things were with regards to segregation and language, Randall said.

"Maya Angelou is in a class of her own," said student Christina Minikon. "She's deep, soulful and insightful. She knows what she's doing when it comes to poetry."

Minikon said Angelou has to be an awesome writer if she is so well known. Angelou is also famous for appearing on Oprah, a few movies and speaking at a Presidential Inauguration.

Angelou has received many honors in her career. She received a Pulitzer Prize nomination for her book of poetry, a Tony Award nomination for the 1973 play *Look Away*, and three Grammys for her spoken word albums. Singer Ben Harper wrote a song called "Till Rise" which features parts of her

poem "And Still I Rise." Angelou has been awarded many honorary degrees.

The honored author serves another important position, role model. "Angelou is a positive role model, a Black icon and an icon in general," Minikon said.

Randall said Angelou's autobiography is crucial to the development of the African-American novel. It was written at the time of civil rights, an emergence of Black arts and the embracing of being Black and Black women, she said.

"In *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, she bears her soul about painful experiences," Randall said. "It is a timeless piece as it is still functional today. The novel speaks to young girls, especially Black girls, who are coming of age."

Maya Angelou's writing has been an encouragement to many. She has lived a long life and has braved many struggles. Her strength and persistence makes her an inspirational woman who deserves to be honored.

Weekly Greek SU Greeks strive to change previous misconceptions

By Lindsey Dickinson
Staff Writer

There are lots of common misconceptions about what it is like to join a sorority or fraternity. Many forms of media have portrayed joining a Greek organization as a grueling process with many bad experiences. Therefore, many people associate joining such organizations with the words "pledging" and "hazing."

At Salisbury University, the Greek organizations strive to change students' judgments about joining Greek Life. Salisbury's National Panhellenic Council (NPC) replaces words with negative connotations to other words that have a more positive association, since it is important to make joining a sorority a pleasant and memorable experience. For example, instead of calling someone a "pledge," NPC uses the words "new member." Also, the process where a woman learns about the sorority she is going to get initiated into is not referred to as "pledging" but it is the "new member process."

"Joining a sorority at Salisbury University is supposed to be one of the best memories of your life," said Jennifer Hackett, SU's NPC president. "We do as much as possible to ensure an enjoyable new member process. Each sorority must submit their calendar of planned events for new members to John Stout (SU's Student Life Coordinator) so that he can approve the activities. Also, SU has a no tolerance policy on hazing, something that we take extremely seriously."

The new member process is a crucial step to becoming a sister. It is important to know the history, philanthropy, and most importantly the other sisters, before becoming a

member since joining is a lifelong commitment.

Here at SU, the new member process lasts between 5-8 weeks, depending on which organization you join. This process consists of activities such as learning about the sorority you are joining with a focus on history and symbols, attending weekly meetings, getting a big sister, learning songs and participating in philanthropic events with the chapter, among other things. Each of these activities is planned to help the new members get to know one another and the sisters.

"One activity that I love is five on five basketball," said President of the Theta Delta chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha, Katie Ziola. "We participate in intramural sports so that our new members can get to know one another, and so that sisters can get to know new members as well. And we have fun!"

The semester may sometimes be overwhelming as you are meeting many new people and experiencing new things, but in the end you have great memories.

"My favorite part of being a new member was getting my big sister, going to banquets and meeting all the sisters," said Caitlin Conway, President of the Beta Mu chapter of Alpha Sigma Tau. "Our current pledge class is Beta Nu."

"My favorite part of being a new member was being able to meet so many nice, new people," said Katie Ziola. "I loved being involved in so many things around the campus and community. I also loved participating in philanthropic events."

While some may always think of joining a Greek organization as a negative process, SU's Greek community has gone above and beyond to change this bad reputation.



Lindsey Dickinson photo

The new members of Zeta Tau Alpha pause for a photo on in the Gulls Nest. They are ecstatic to be joining the sisterhood.

Dr. Charmaine Patricia Warren sets up the stage with her lecture on "Dance and Culture"

By Nick Lehwald
Staff Writer

Thursday night proved to be an interesting and inspirational evening in Holloway Hall, as SU hosted the Alvin Ailey II dance troupe preceded by a lecture from Dr. Charmaine Patricia Warren, a faculty member at the Ailey School in New York City. The event, sponsored by the Office of Cultural Affairs, Office of Multicultural Affairs and the SU Dance Company, was as popular this year as it has been in past years.

Opening night Thursday proved just how anticipated the Ailey event was. The air was filled with excitement, as the crowd slowly filed little by little into the sold out auditorium. The crowd was composed of a mix of people, from SU students and faculty, to community residents and elementary and middle school students who came with their teachers as a class to see the show.

After a slight delay, the lights in the house dimmed and it was time for the lecture to begin. Dr. Warren, appearing on stage in a simple black outfit, with her long dreadlocks pulled behind her and gold earrings sparkling against the spot lights, was greeted with a warm and resounding applause from the audience. A well practiced teacher and lecturer, Dr.

Warren greeted the audience with an easy-going smile.

Born in Jamaica and raised in New Jersey, Dr. Warren is truly a woman worthy of great praise. She holds two degrees in dance and dance research and a Ph.D. in history from Howard University. Along with her teachings at the Ailey school, Warren is a faculty member at Alvin Ailey/Fordham University, New York University and Queens College. A professional performer for many years with many New York dance companies, Warren has been dancing since she was 14-years-old. Currently retired from the stage life, Dr. Warren gives regular lectures around the nation and world on Western dance history and the Black tradition in American dance. Dr. Warren is also a contributing writer for *Dance Magazine* and *The Amsterdam News*, to name a few.

The topic of the lecture was dance and culture. "What is dance?" asked Dr. Warren rhetorically to the audience. "Dance is a way of ordering and categorizing life," explains Warren, "by way of our movements and our actions."

To Warren, there are two ways to look at dancing, analytically and culturally. Looking at dance analytically involves studying the effort involved, such as movements through space and time. To

give an example, Warren demonstrated how walking down the street can be transformed into dance by simply exaggerating the steps involved. With flowing movements, Warren took a giant step out from behind the lectern, and dance-walked halfway across the stage.

The second way to study dance is culturally. Dance in almost all cultures around the world offers many appeals, either of some psychological security, creating social harmony, for healing purposes and as a form of release.

"The common factor in almost every dance, however, is the palm. How each culture uses their palms in their dance, whether to keep them free and showing, or to hold something or keep them covered, shows a lot about society as a whole in a particular community or culture as a whole," said Warren. Emphasizing her point, Dr. Warren showed a clip from the documentary *Palm Play*, about the meaning of the palm in cultures around the world.

Warren moved on to discuss how dancing is very social in America, with everyone knowing many different dance styles, like the tango, swing, the Susie Q, the twist and the Motown Hustle. While giving credence to modern dance in hip-hop and R&B, Dr. Warren is hesitant to classify them as new types of dance.

According to Warren all cultures borrow from each other and weave the old styles of dance into new styles. "The black tradition grows stronger in the US, with its influences being shown through more and more kinds of dance," Warren said about the evolution of dance in the past few decades.

Concluding with what was supposed to be a brief Q&A session, but digressed nearly into a free-

for-all, Dr. Warren finished up the lecture. Any longer and there wouldn't have been time to see the Ailey show, which the audience was ready for. With their brains satisfactorily filled with new knowledge and gained awareness, Dr. Warren took her bows to a roaring applause and left the stage, handing the masses off to the Alvin Ailey II dancers.



Public Relations photo

Dr. Charmaine Patricia Warren, a faculty member at the Ailey school in NYC, lectured the Alvin Ailey audience on Thursday night.

HEALTH COLUMN

The wonderful world of olive oil

By Sarah Brinton
Staff Writer

Could olive oil be the secret to the long, healthy life of the supposed 120-year-old Marim Amash of Israel? Amash's granddaughter-in-law, Hamda Amash, 40, reportedly said she is a "healthy, active woman. She walks each day and makes sure she drinks at least one glass of olive oil."

Consuming that much olive oil is a bit extreme. One cup contains 1,909 calories, almost the total daily recommended amount. However, according to the Food and Drug Administration, consuming about two tablespoons of olive oil a day may reduce your risk of heart disease.

Best-selling author, Nicholas Perricone, describes health and beauty benefits that include extra virgin olive oil. "It increases your skin's ability to maintain moisture, evens out color, increases radiance when applied topically, decreases LDL cholesterol, increases HDL cholesterol, helps intestinal absorption of nutrients, helps gallbladder activity, lowers blood pressure, decreases gastric acid secretion in ulcers, lowers the probability of gallstones, stimulates pancreatic secretion, aids bone development in children, prevents osteoporosis, lowers glucose levels in diabetics, reduces risk of prostate cancer, reduces risk of breast cancer, prevents edema (water retention), prevents tumor promotion [and] helps prevent colon cancer."

Perricone's findings as a dermatologist indicates that using olive oil promote long term health and results in healthier looking skin. Olive oil can give you a glow that no store bought moisturizer will do for you.

Olive oil bottles marked "virgin" or "extra-virgin" means that they are the least processed forms. This means that they contain the highest levels of polyphenols, a powerful anti oxidant according to the Mayo Clinic.

There different kinds of olive oils range from extra virgin olive oil to virgin, pure, or extra light. Extra virgin olive oil, or as author and host of Food Network shows \$40 a Day and 30Minute Meals Rachael Ray puts it "EVOO" is considered the best type of olive oil to use in cooking. Ray has branded her own kind of "EVOO".

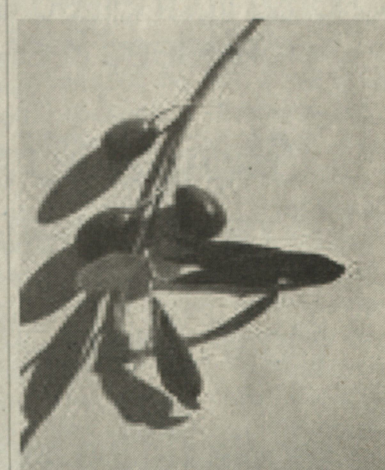
"My EVOO has an Extra Tasty flavor and a deep, delicious aroma. It's always the first ingredient in any dish I make," said Ray.

"College students should get into the habit of eating healthier fats like olive oil. Don't wait until you are older to worry about your health," said Marianna Cerulli, SU Dietician.

According to an April 4, 2006, MSNBC article by Karen Collins. "Because 75 percent of the fatty acid 'building blocks' that make up olive oil come from monounsaturated fat, and only 13 percent from saturated fat, it's easy to see why blood cholesterol goes down when olive oil replaces butter and high-fat meat as the main source of fat. Analysis relates olive oil to the Mediterranean diet's link with lower blood pressure as well."

When asked if she used olive oil in her diet, SU student, Rachel Vontabel said, "I use olive oil on everything... I am Italian."

Remember, the next time you go to cook that favorite meal, use some extra virgin olive oil and get used to cooking healthy.



Internet photo

No. 1 Salisbury Men's Lax holds off No. 5 Lynchburg

By Chris Brown
Staff Writer

An errant pass with three seconds left helped secure the Salisbury men's lacrosse team in its second win of the season, as the top-ranked Gulls held off No. 5 Lynchburg 10-9 in a fierce game. A crowd of 740 endured freezing conditions in order to witness the latest triumph which extends Salisbury's streak of regular-season victories to 64, while the Gulls also remain undefeated at home in their last 62 contests. The last defeat in Sea Gull Stadium was in 2003 at the hands of Lynchburg.

"I'm proud we won today. Lynchburg is a good team and they played real hard," said Coach Berkman, whose career win total improved to 301 after this match. "We made some mistakes clearing the ball and we didn't shoot great.



Andrew Baker photo

We're going to have to watch some film and we will have to learn from our mistakes," Berkman said.

Greg Titus had four goals for Salisbury, while Kylor Berkman added one goal and four assists. Matt Hickman and Patrick Bonanno contributed two goals apiece, and Mike Von Kamecke added three assists. Goaltender Riley Clark had nine saves in the game including five clutch stops in the third quarter.

Salisbury jumped out to an early lead and the game was tied at two after the first period. The Gulls added three more in the second quarter and took a 5-3 lead going into halftime. In the second half, the reigning champions extended their advantage further in the third. "We were up by four with a chance to go up by five," Berkman said. "We had them where we wanted, but we didn't finish."

Lynchburg outshot Salisbury 44 - 36, and won the face-off battle 12 - 10. However, the Hornets lost the game on the ground as the Gulls, led by defender Connor Burgasser and long stick midfielder Ryan Browning, grabbed 38 ground balls. Lynchburg never capitalized on any of their five extra man opportunities and Salisbury took advantage, netting three while Lynchburg was short-handed.

Salisbury only took six shots in the final quarter as they attempted to burn the clock, but Lynchburg was able to close the gap with goals from Stephen Weis and Michael Mundorf. Weis scored at the end of the third period and Mundorf started off the fourth quarter with another to put the score at 10 - 9. Lynchburg goaltender Garrett Curran had 11 saves in the game and did not allow a goal in the final period. The Hornets had several chances late in the game to tie, but Salisbury's defense held strong. Attackman Jake DeLillo made a spectacular play, intercepting a Lynchburg pass as the Hornets tried to advance the ball late in the game. The Hornets managed three shots on goal in the last half-minute. Lynchburg's final opportunity came in the waning seconds of the game, but a pass intended for Johnny Black went astray and sealed the game for Salisbury. "We gave them nine and we should be able to get 10," Berkman said.

Salisbury's next game will be their first conference game of the year, as the Gulls travel to play Wesley College on Wednesday Feb. 27.

Women's lacrosse dominates Randolph-Macon on Saturday

By Ben Muell
Staff Writer

It was cold and gloomy last Saturday at Sea Gull Stadium but the No. 3 women's lacrosse team (3-0, CAC 1-0), did not seem to notice as they made easy work of the Randolph-Macon Yellow Jackets 24-1.

The Gulls completely dominated from the opening draw. Senior Sue Ackermann assisted senior Jessica Liston on back-to-back possessions to give SU a 2-0 lead one minute into the game. Junior Jessica Chmielewski used quick moves in front of the goal keeping RMC defenders off balance as she scored.

Later on, Ackermann beat the RMC goalie as she wrapped around the back of the cage for an unassisted goal. The fastest goal of the day came immediately after that. SU won the draw and Chmielewski found freshman Logan Bilderback uncovered and open as she quickly scored in nine seconds pushing the Gulls lead to 7-0. The only defensive slip up came with 15:03 to go in the first half. RMC's Lacy Phelps scored on a free position shot in front of the goal. Junior Goalie Sonja Stuart stood casually for the majority of the game as she enjoyed the offensive fireworks. At the end of the half sophomore Beth Rhodney waltzed by defenders as she headed up field and scored an unassisted goal giving her a hat trick for the day. Ackermann and Chmielewski added unassisted goals to close out the first half up 12-1.

The second half was no differ-



Andrew Baker photo

ent. The Gulls continued to dominate RMC adding 12 more goals mostly coming from the SU bench. The defense continued to shut down all RMC attacks. Second half scoring was lead by senior Alexis Morrell who had two goals and an assist. The Gulls continued to move the ball well throughout the half. Junior Courtney Sorenson snagged a high pass from Morrell in between two defenders right in front of the goal and found the back of the net for her only strike of the game.

Bilderback added the game's final score with 6:11 left in the game, giving her two scores for the day. Head Coach Jim Nestor called off the dogs from there on out. The game ended as Salisbury played keep away for the final three minutes.

The real key to the Salisbury victory was the unrelenting defense lead by Allison Sofranko, Maddie

Goetz, Jess Glazer and Kelly Phillips. Flocks of white jerseys surrounded every RMC player every time they touched the ball. They took advantage of every RMC miscue, forcing twenty-five turnovers. RMC cleared the ball only five times as SU won 21 of 27 draws and outshot RMC 45-6.

The Gulls dominated in a team effort, posting 12 different scorers. Ackermann led the way with five goals and four assists. Chmielewski finished the day with three goals and two assists while sophomore Kim Cudmore added two goals and an assist. The Sea Gulls have dominated on both sides of the ball early in the season, scoring 67 goals while surrendering only six in three games.

The Gulls are on the road next Wednesday when they will travel to Norfolk, VA, to take on the Virginia Wesleyan Marlins.

Coach Jim Berkman reaches 300 career wins

By Phil Speake
Staff Writer

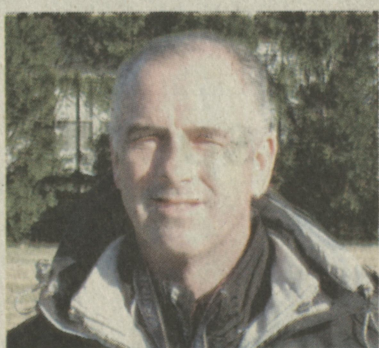
Salisbury University's lacrosse coach Jim Berkman recorded his 300th career win with a 20-7 victory over Virginia Wesleyan College last week at Sea Gull Stadium. Berkman's record as head coach of the Sea Gulls stands at 300-30 giving him a .900 winning percentage, the best in NCAA men's lacrosse history. Add that achievement to seven national championships and 142 All-Americans, Coach Berkman delivers an unquestionable hall of fame resume.

Entering his 20th season at Salisbury, Berkman has seven national championships, a perfect Capital Athletic Conference record of 90-0, and does not look to be slowing down anytime soon. When asked if he had any thoughts on retirement in the future, Berkman said, "I plan on being here until I'm all said and done." So potential recruits should not have any worries about where their coach's priorities are.

Most coaches have several defining moments in their career that they remember and will never forget, and for Berkman his first defining moment came in 1994 when the Gulls defeated Hobart College for their first national championship. Hobart had dominated the Division III college landscape for years and was getting ready to make the switch to Division I following the 1994 season. "We beat them that year before the switch and it really solidified us as a team," Berkman said.

Another moment that Berkman cherishes came last season. Berkman got the opportunity to lift another national championship and share it on the field with his son Kylor, a junior midfielder for the Sea Gulls. "It was pretty special," Berkman said. Celebrating a championship as a coach and a father is something few coaches can say they have done, especially on such a high level.

Berkman is thankful for all the players that have come through his program and knows that without all of them the wins would have never been possible. "I've been fortunate to coach great players and great teams," Berkman said. Along with coaching lacrosse, Berkman also teaches coaching courses at Salisbury and has great advice for any aspiring coaches. The things he believes in most are loyalty, being a good person and always creating new plays or drills. Berkman is only the second NCAA men's lacrosse coach to reach 300 wins and is second in career wins behind former Army coach Jack Emmer. Berkman hopes to continue to add to that milestone in the coming seasons.



Andrew Baker photo

Sea Gulls

★ SPORTS BEAT ★ SPORTS BEAT ★ SPORTS BEAT ★ SPORTS BEAT ★

Men's Basketball

The Salisbury University men's basketball team (6-19, CAC 4-12) lost to conference foe Marymount University last Wednesday 59-53. With a win, the Gulls would have clinched a spot in the CAC playoffs. Greg Palmer led the Gulls with a team high 15 points. Gary Ward added 14, including a three pointer that tied the game at 53 with 1:12 left in the second half. The Saints ended the game with six free throws after SU failed to capitalize on three shot attempts. SU led by seven with 14:39 left in the game but lost it after Marymount went on a 10-0 run with six minutes left. Todd Ostrom added eight off the bench.

SU faced off against Hood College on Saturday with a win-and-in opportunity, a win would have sent the Gulls to the CAC playoffs. SU fell short to Hood 73-72. Ward led the team with 19 points including four three pointers. Matt DeLizio recorded career highs in points (13) and rebounds (9). Even though SU lost they backed into the playoffs due to a Wesley loss. The Gulls will face top seed York on Tuesday Feb. 26 in the CAC quarterfinals.

Women's Basketball

The Salisbury University women's basketball team (11-14, CAC 8-8) came up short against Marymount University last Wednesday 69-64. The Gulls jumped out early, going up 16-6 in the first five minutes. Marymount erased the Gulls' lead by going on an 18-7 run. The Gulls went into the half down eight 42-34. Monica Merkel led the way for the Gulls, recording a double-double. Merkel finished the game with 20 points and 12 rebounds. This is the first time the Gulls have been swept by Marymount since 2000. Lindsay Martin added 17 points and five rebounds while Janay Johnson added seven points and 11 rebounds. The Sea Gulls shot 38.7 percent from the field and out-rebounded Marymount 40-36 in their loss.

SU finished their regular season with a 24-point win over Hood College on Saturday. Martin led the way for the Sea Gulls with 19 points and a season-high 12 rebounds. Martin also recorded season highs in assists (six) and steals (five). Johnson had another strong performance, ending the game with 13 points, 13 rebounds

and three steals. The Gulls defeated their conference rival 73-49 and now turn their attention towards the CAC playoffs. The sixth seed Sea Gulls will travel to third seed St. Mary's on Tuesday, Feb. 26.

Women's Lacrosse

The Salisbury University No. 3 women's lacrosse team defeated Christopher Newport on Tuesday afternoon 19-5. Beth Rhodney had a career day scoring six goals. She finished the game with eight points on six goals and two assists. SU went up early, 5-0, scoring two on free position shots. The Sea Gulls went into the half with a 12-1 lead. CNU scored in the early minutes of the second half and failed to ever gain control of the game. Sue Ackermann added three goals and two assists. Jessica Chmielewski, Robyn Bishop, Holly Johnson, and Logan Bilderback all scored two goals to contribute to the powerful Gulls offense. Goalie Sonja Stuart finished the game with eight saves recording her second win of the season.

Men's Tennis

The Salisbury University men's tennis team competed in the Drew

Invitational on Saturday. The Gulls swept their opponents in a round-robin tournament by defeating Stevens Institute of Technology, Salve Regina University and Drew University. Brendan Kincaid went on to win back-to-back victories over his No. 1 single opponents 6-2 and 6-2. Scott Burtzloff and Evan Thomas switched roles at No. 2 and No. 3 singles throughout day one, going 2-0 apiece. Sasha Felikson pushed hard in No. 4 singles as he fought out a 5-7, 6-3, and 10-6 win over Piotr Rusinkiewicz from Stevens Tech and won in straight sets (6-2, 6-0) over Alex Belifore of Drew University. Andrew Nottage and Marcus Robinson recorded 2-0 records at No. 5 and No. 6 singles. The Gulls won their three doubles matches as No. 1 doubles team of Kincaid and Burtzloff defeated the Drew University pair of Jon Pivor and Vik Rao 8-0. Andrew Nottage and Robinson won 8-2 at No. 2 doubles defeating Salve Regina's team of Jason Lago and Andrew Martin.

The Gulls went 15-0 on Saturday and finished the invitational on Sunday, Feb. 24.

Sea Gulls

★ SPORTS BEAT ★ SPORTS BEAT ★ SPORTS BEAT ★ SPORTS BEAT ★

SALISBURY SPORTS CALENDAR

Tuesday-2/26	Wednesday-2/27	Thursday-2/28	Friday-2/29	Saturday-3/1	Sunday-3/2	Monday-3/3
Women's Basketball @ St. Mary's (MD) 6:00 PM CAC Tournament - Quarterfinals Men's Basketball @ York (PA) 8:00 PM CAC Tournament - Quarterfinals	Baseball vs Wesley 2:00 PM Men's LAX @ Wesley 3:30 PM Women's LAX @ Virginia Wesleyan 3:00 PM	Baseball @ Wesley Doubleheader; Noon	Men's Tennis vs. New York University; 2:00 PM Women's Tennis vs. New York University; 2:00 PM Softball @ Norfolk, VA Va. Wesleyan Tournament (2/29 - 3/2)	Women's LAX @ York (PA) Noon Men's LAX @ Widener 1:00 PM Track & Field @ George Mason University 9:00 AM	Men's Tennis vs. UMES 11:00 AM Men's Tennis vs. St. Mary's 3:00 PM Women's Tennis vs. St. Mary's 3:00 PM Baseball vs. Washington College 1:00 PM	